The Middlebury Campus

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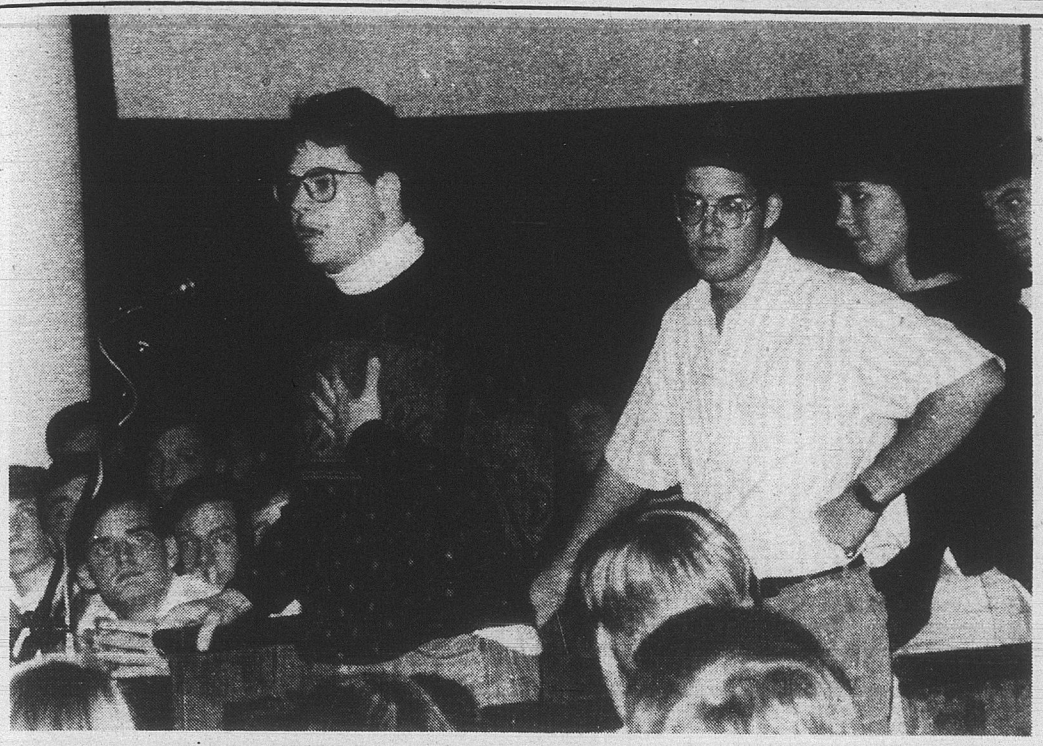


Pat Berry, John Youngman, and Laura Rude defend fraternities at the all-college meeting last Monday.

Photo by Jon Norling

Task force committee holds all-college meeting in Mead

By Todd Capute

Monday night, following the release of the Report of the Task Force on Student Social Life, members of the task force committee held an open meeting in Mead Chapel. Members summarized the report's major themes, and then responded to the questions and comments of those present.

Most of those present represented a pro-fraternity stance. They criticized the task force's methods, questioned the validity of its conclusions, and challenged the practicability of its recommendation to abolish the fraternity system.

Many criticized the fact that the meeting was held the same day that the report was issued, allowing inadequate time for students to read the report.

"I wish I had a question for you," said Robert Skiff '90, "but I had less than twelve hours to read [the report]...I think this [lack of communication] is symptomatic of how the administration, faculty, and staff are dealing with the student body."

Skiff continued, "We saw this in how the administration handled the tuition increase and the sexual harassment hearings."

Dean of the College Ann Craig Hanson replied that this meeting would hopefully be the first in a series of discussions which would form an ongoing dialogue between students and committee members.

Others questioned the impartiality of the task force members, and the validity of its conclusions in relation to the data presented.

"Were your conclusions decided upon before or after these surveys went out?" Kappa Delta Rho Vice President Nick Beckwith asked.

Beckwith argued that three of the major arguments for fraternity abolition—racism, sexism, and alcohol abuse—were negated by statistics presented in the report.

"These charges have no validity," said Beckwith, "I think this was an exercise in going in there knowing what you were going to find, and disregarding what didn't go along with your thesis."

Members of the audience raised the question of alternatives, citing the committee's perceived lack of constructive planning in the wake of eliminating the current system.

"There are really no alternatives from the freshman level up," said Pat Berry '91, "[students] can't go downtown, can't go to fraternities, and ....from what President Robison says it seems like the student center is never going to be built." Berry continued, "Isn't it worth a try, to gradually reform the system, seeing as there is no alternative?"

"What a lot of us have in mind is diversifying the kind of social life on campus," task force member Richard Wolfson replied, "not destroying it, but making it more diverse, having more different kinds of things available."

"This is not the end of parties at Middlebury," added Hanson, "what we are talking about is a system which includes both men and women on an equal footing."

Committee member Margaret Lynch '89, argued that the traditional fears and stereotypes make transforming the current system impossible. "When I was a freshman my J.C. told us not to get caught in a fraternity late at night because we might be raped," said Lynch. "I used to be afraid to walk past fraternities because I would be heckled as I was walking past...I think we can create a better social life here."

Kappa Delta Rho member Laura Rude disagreed with Lynch's prescription for abolishing the fraternities. "I think that if women really want to change the system, they have to get in there," said Rude, ... "you have to stick your neck out, make an effort."

"Through integration of the fraternity system women will get a better understanding of men, and men will get a better understanding of women," Rude added, "there won't be this sexist issue on campus."

Task force member John DeMatte '90, an advocate of reforming the current system, argued that the fraternities are already beginning to institute reform, and are capable of realizing the goal of full coeducation.

Yet to the majority of the task force abolishment is the answer.

"We live in a world that has a new appreciation for diversity, equal opportunity, and human rights," said committee member and Professor of Religion Steven Rockefeller.

"How can Middlebury, going into the 1990's, reaffirm a commitment to all-male fraternities?" Rockefeller said, "If you are going to jump in a lake, jump in and get it over with, don't stand on shore thinking about how you're going to do it."

Said DeMatte, "I want to jump in the lake too, but I want to put my suit on, first."

Task Force on Student Social Life recommends abolition of frats

By Todd Capute

The Task Force on Student Social Life has completed a ten month in-depth examination of Middlebury College's social structure. The task force released its final report on Monday.

The committee was appointed by President Olin Robison as a part of Middlebury's self-study for reaccreditation. The 104 page report, packed with statistics, survey data, and college history, calls for a radical change in the college's current social system.

Chaired by Dean of the College Ann Craig Hanson, the 17 member task force includes five students and two trustees along with members of the faculty and staff. Charged by Robison with assessing student social life, taking a "particularly close look at the role played by fraternities," the committee unanimously issued recommendations related to residential life, student activities, alcohol and drug abuse, student/faculty relations, and the reform of the current fraternity system. The task force split over the issue of fraternity abolition.

The unanimous recommendations include the transformation of the current fraternity system into a "co-educational residential/social system" intended to "celebrate the diversity and pluralism of the student body through inclusion rather than exclusion."

The report cited a "philosophical opposition to single sex social organizations," the poor physical condition of fraternity houses, and a concern over "the party reputation that Middlebury is developing." The committee urged that the Community Council, with extensive student and faculty participation, devise a process to realize such a system. Yet the task force disagreed as to the best means of achieving its reform.

An eleven member majority advocated the abolition of fraternities by May 30, 1990. Two major arguments served as the rationale for this decision. The first is that "[the fraternity] structure permits unacceptable behavior and [fraternities] promote sexist attitudes." The majority believe that a "new and different social system would help to alleviate [the problems of alcohol abuse and harassment]."

The second argument concerned the "systematic exclusion of women from fraternities." The report addressed the question, "Why not reform the fraternity system?" with several points. According to the majority view, fraternity response to mandated change has been historically disruptive and hostile. "We are concerned," the report reads, "that each step of an 'evolutionary' process will be met with resistance and unrest."

The majority also argued that the

(Continued on page 3)

Lindholm discusses recent changes in college community

By Randy Weiner

Dean of Students Karl Lindholm spoke candidly about the numerous issues that affected the college community over the past semester during a recent interview. He especially noted the excitement that is surrounding the college as it prepares to make some very important decision about its future.

"I have mixed emotions about the president's resignation," said Lindholm, "I'm happy for him in that he will have a more reasonable lifestyle, but I worry about myself because I want to be able to have the same latitude and confidence with the new president."

Lindholm said that students have faulted Robison for his distance from the students. As dean of students, Lindltolm finds this to be ironic.

"President Robison relies on the deans to stay in contact with the students," said Lindholm, "He places confidence in professionally trained and professionally interested people to keep him informed of the students' sentiments."

A major point of interest this fall has been the brewing controversy over the future of the fraternity system. While many believe the deliberations to have been carried out slowly, Lindholm feels that this is merely the necessary means to the end of preventing a rushed and uninformed decision.

"The process [of researching the fraternity system] has been responsible and deliberate," said Lindholm, "We are definitely working toward a resolution."

Lindholm stressed that despite the fact that many people believe the issue to already be decided, he feels this is not the case. Though the respective faculty and student interest bodies have already voted, the final voice of the Board of Trustees remains to be heard.

Another event which received much attention over the course of this semester was the attack of the student near Twilight Hall. This is the third year in a row that there has been an incidence of violence against a female student.

"All students need to be aware of the danger of walking alone at night," Lindholm said, "Incidents like this one have always taken place at night and to a person who has been walking alone."

Lindholm said that he feels that everyone should take care of each other on campus. He also noted that action is currently be taken to in-

(Continued on page 3)

Dean of Students Karl Lindholm

Photo by Jon Norling

College Shorts

by Andrew Friendly

Students Arrested For Running Betting Ring

Two undergraduate students and one graduate of the University of Texas at Austin have been charged with running a gambling operation that attracted $100,000 per weekend in sports bets.

The students ran the operation from an off-campus apartment. The two current students are juniors majoring in business and economics and the other graduated last summer with a degree in finance. All three were released from jail after posting $15,000 bail each.

Human Powered Helicopter Flies

Students at the California Polytechnic State University made aviation history when their human powered helicopter lifted two inches off the ground in a two second flight.

The 100-pound helicopter was flown by Gregory MacNeil, an engineering student who races on the U.S. cycling team. The Da Vinci III, as the helicopter was named after Leonardo's similar design, was the first successful version of four models the students have built since 1981.

MacMurray Protests Racist Mail

About 400 students at MacMurray College in Jacksonville, Illinois marched across campus to protest the more than forty anonymous letters containing racial slurs that had been sent to black students and faculty. The letters were sent through the campus mail system and included slurs directed at specific people.

The local police are investigating the letters but have no suspects.

Harvard Sues Merrill Lynch

Harvard University has filed suit in Boston against Merrill Lynch for encouraging the school to invest $45 million in a company that filed for bankruptcy in September.

Merrill Lynch had advised the organization that manages Harvard's investment portfolio to invest in the Dallas based Lomas Financial Corporation last spring.

Harvard charges the brokerage firm with misrepresentation and negligence and is seeking $135 million in damages.

Dartmouth Review Staff Loses Appeal

A US Court of Appeals judge in Boston denied an appeal by members of the Dartmouth Review, a conservative student newspaper, against Dartmouth College.

The lawsuit concerned the suspension of three Review staff members after they had confronted a black music professor. The students claimed that the college had discriminated against them because they were white.

The students will not appeal the decision but will instead focus on a related lawsuit in state court that charges the college with breach of contract for not allowing the students to exercise their rights of expression. A temporary injunction reinstated the suspended students at Dartmouth until the outcome of the other case.

U Mass Students Strike Over Budget Cuts

Students at the Amherst campus of the University of Massachusetts went on strike to protest cuts in the state's higher education budget. Students boycotted classes and picketed buildings, but they failed to shut down the university.

Although the school's administration opposed the strike, it did help arrange for buses to take protestors to Boston so they could talk to legislators. The university also set up toll-free phone banks for students to call the legislators.

Lofts Banned After Dorm Fire

Bryant College in Rhode Island banned wooden lofts in students' rooms after a fire in a dormitory caused nearly $300,000 in damage.

The fire is thought to have been caused by an overloaded electrical circuit that ignited a mattress, but a loft in the room helped to spread the flames. No one was injured in the fire, but almost one hundred students had to be relocated for a week while the dorm was repaired.

Brawl Breaks Out After Football Game

The annual University of Washington and Washington State football game was once again followed by a violent clash with the police. The brawl occurred when about sixty police officers, some in full riot gear, and 200 ushers attempted to stop hundreds of students from tearing down a goal post. Two fans were arrested and dozens injured after the police used mace to stop the students. The police had been ordered not to use their nightsticks.

University and police officials blame an article in the University of Washington student newspaper that encouraged students to tear down the goal posts when the game ended.

NEWS

SGA assesses issues

Encourages student participation

By Marika Holmgren

On December 3 the Student Government Association will conclude its fall semester and will not meet again until winter term. Among the issues that have been addressed by the SGA and its committees are CIA recruitment, sexual harassment and lighting on campus.

The SGA has again found CIA recruitment a priority issue. Middlebury's current policy requires any organization recruiting on campus to sign a statement outlining the college's anti-discrimination policy, in addition to signing the federal statement. The SGA has recently recommended that an addition to the Middlebury's statement be made stating that the organization does not employ or encourage the use of violence as a means of policy or practice. The recommendation has been forwarded to the President's office.

"Our proposal is to add that statement to the second policy (Middlebury's) they have to sign. If they don't sign that, they will have to hold an open discussion, but they can still recruit on campus. That's obviously directed right at the CIA, but it will also affect any armed forces that come on campus," said Louise Totten '91, Vice President of SGA.

Totten noted that the SGA has voted to form a sub-committee which will plan an all-college forum to discuss the CIA's appropriateness on campus.

The fraternity issue and the Report of the Task Force on Student Social Life will be high on next semester's agenda, according to Jon Lenicheck '90, President of SGA. The SGA will be voting on this report and will forward the results to the trustees.

While the SGA can only make recommendations, and cannot make policy changes, Lenicheck hopes to receive more substantial input from the student body regarding this particular issue. He encourages students to respond to the trustees with their opinions, and hopes to see more students attending the weekly SGA meetings. Lenicheck stresses that the SGA represents the undergraduate voice, and is there to provide a forum in which students can express themselves.

Community Council has been addressing the issue of sexual harassment.

"(We've) decided to send a letter to President Robison that says we think the sexual harassment policy should be discussed. President Robison has gone to Faculty Council, Staff Council, Community Council and SGA and said that the way to deal with the Paul Cubeta situation is not to back track but to move forward," said Totten, the co-chair of the Community Council.

Totten stated that President Robison feels that Middlebury has abided by its sexual harassment policy, and is now willing to discuss a policy change.

"The Community Council suggestion is that President Robison either appoint a special committee made up of the various constituents to talk about the policy to see if they can revise it or to take advantage of the fact that the Community Council is made up of staff, administration, faculty students—the broadest spectrum you can get—and let us make a recommendation," Totten said.

Totten added that the Community Council has suggested that such staff as Yonna McShane, Assistant Director Health Educator Counseling and Human Relations Center, be included in the discussion.

The Community Council also meets annually with the fraternities to review their statements of purpose and program. The meetings took place this week. Future plans for the group include a discussion of the winter term rebate for students who take part in off-campus programs.

The issue of lighting on campus has long been an item on the SGA agenda and recently has been addressed by the planned implementation of a three-phase plan. Peter Chenevert, Director of Campus Security, will begin the process by replacing the current lightbulbs with ones of higher wattage, and if necessary, adding to the current lighting and finally by assessing the first two phases of the plan and making any additional changes that might be necessary.

Next week the SGA will begin a discussion of additional lighting with the presentation by the lighting and security committee formed earlier in the semester. "The plan is to implement a 'corridor' system by which you can go from one building on campus to any other building on campus along a well-lighted route, though not necessarily the most direct route," said Lenicheck.

Another topic covered by the SGA is that of the SCAM booklet, which will soon go on-line on the library's computer system, rather than being mailed to students. The SGA forwarded a recommendation to the Faculty Council that a small amount of class time during the last week of classes be taken to complete the SCAM questionnaires in order to improve the response rate. The recommendation was rejected by the Faculty Council.

The committee on the Student Social Responsibility Code has been in existence since 1986, but has recently become more active, hoping to complete its work by the end of the year. The committee is currently proposing a written code regarding social responsibility to be signed by students.

The Educational Council has reviewed a proposal by the physical education department to implement a new set of requirements. The Council voted to adopt the proposal and present it to the faculty. Since it is a change is degree requirement, it must be voted on by the faculty.

The new requirements would involve two PE credits rather than three, however varsity sports would no longer be counted as credits.

The Council also reviewed a proposal by Ted Perry, Professor of Theater and Art, to create a new program called "Media Studies." This proposal was rejected.

"In both instances, and in all cases, what we're looking for are proposals that will have a positive contribution to the quality of education at Middlebury," said Dan O'Neil, member of the Educational Council.

According to Lenicheck, other SGA agenda items that may be addressed next semester include student parking, dorm renovations and relations with the town.

While the SGA can only make recommendations, and cannot make policy changes, Lenicheck hopes to receive more substantial input from the student body regarding this particular issue. Lenicheck stresses that the SGA represents the undergraduate voice, and is there to provide a forum in which students can express themselves.

"[We've] decided to send a letter to President Robison that says we think the sexual harassment policy should be discussed. President Robison has...said that the way to deal with the Paul Cubeta situation is not to back track but to move forward..."

Series of thefts strips Château of artwork

By Brianna Becker

A number of articles, including a large tapestry, two pictures and a lamp, were stolen from the public areas of the Château shortly before Thanksgiving vacation.

The tapestry, which hung on a wall just inside the left entrance of the Château and was discovered missing on the morning of November 17, has been recovered. The other articles, taken from the Grand Salon of the Château on November 11, have not been found.

"I think that the Château is particularly vulnerable to thefts," says Château House Director Kirsten Keppel '90, "There are people that use it for dinners downstairs, late-night study in the classrooms, or just to hang out in the Grand Salon."

Château residents have expressed both anger and concern about the thefts, especially when they consider that the articles could be added to their bill for dorm damage.

One of the problems cited by Keppel is that of identifying people who do not belong to the college community. The common areas of the Château are often used by people from Barnes, Battell, Allen, the dorms in the immediate vicinity of the Château, not to mention anyone else on campus who might be visiting.

"To the people who take things, it may seem just a harmless prank," Campus Security officer, Sergeant Terri Weeden said, "but to the owner it may seem personal."

"It's hard to know who takes things and why when people are up twenty-four hours a day," Keppel said.

Sergeant Weeden said, "Students should be more aware of when things are being stolen and not just laugh about it. A call to security could really make a difference."

Task force publishes report

(Continued from page 1)

fraternity system comprises a significant minority of the student body. "It does not make sense," stated the majority recommendation, "to think that the implementation of a [new] system is best accomplished through modifications to a system that only serves 15 percent of our students."

Of this 15 percent, the report notes, only two individuals are women. "There has been no progress in the past ten years toward creating an atmosphere conducive to the establishment of a coeducational fraternity system," the report stated. "This indicates to us that mandating coeducational fraternities will be met with major resistance from the fraternity system."

The majority report proceeded to argue that, given the "stereotypical image of fraternities," most women would be reluctant to join. Thus the integration of the current system would "place women in the position of negotiating for concessions... a posture which ensures that women will continue to be second class citizens."

A five member minority advocated the retention of the current fraternity system for use as the "nucleus" of a new social system. "Recognizing that the fraternity issue directly affects the students themselves and decidedly impacts on their social life," stated the minority recommendation, "we feel that student opinion on this matter should carry substantial importance." The minority report pointed to surveys which revealed that a substantial majority of students favor retention of the fraternity system, even when the vote of fraternity members is discounted.

In addition, the Student Government Association supported the retention of the fraternity system by a vote of 36 to 6.

The minority report suggested that fraternities be maintained, but with reforms including the following: full and equal participation of women, disassociation from national affiliation, greater faculty involvement in the operation of coeducational residential/social units, and a new Document of Understanding to reflect a new social/residential structure.

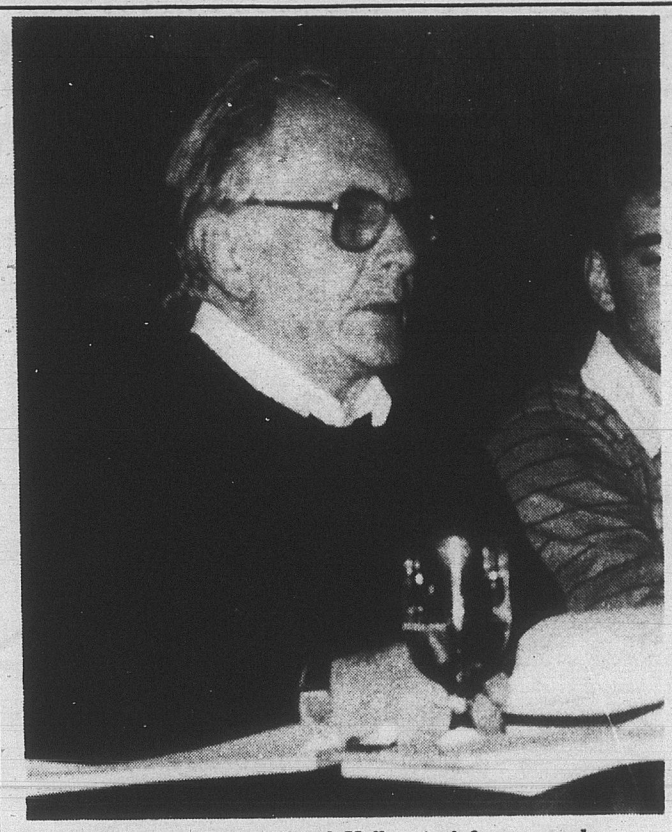
The minority argued that "to eliminate the present system without something to replace it immediately would not be in the best interest of the community."

The Task Force deliberately refrained from making specific recommendations concerning the residential/social system which would replace the current system.

"A plan for building a social system has to come with student input," said Hanson, "and not from something that we recommend." But the report did include several suggestions for a new system.

These suggestions included the installation of a cluster/"commons" system, in which students would be assigned affiliation with a cluster of residence halls in their first year. Each cluster would be assigned one of the current fraternity houses for use as social and party space.

Other recommendations agreed upon by all members of the Task Force include the exclusion of special interest or theme houses, a residence based student government (rather than the current department based system), the option of class-integrated housing, and adequate financial support for the new Student Center.



Director of Residential Life Frank Kelley, task force member, speaks at all-college meeting.

Photo by Jon Norling

Lindholm

(Continued from page 1)

crease safety across the campus

"We are in the midst of adding on new lights to the college campus," Lindholm said, "these lights should be up within a few weeks."

Another new addition to campus will be the new football stadium. Though the plans have come under fire from various faculty and student factions, Lindholm sees it as a chance to better the college's facilities.

"It is important to understand that no student dollars would be spent on the stadium," said Lindholm, "It's a gift, and the money has an express purpose which is to be used toward a new football stadium."

Lindholm cited the numerous other projects that are underway on campus. A new student center, an art center, and computer center are all in the works and will bolster the cultural side of Middlebury.

Lastly, Lindholm commented on the new freshman class and its differences in comparison with previous years. Attempting to bring diversity to the college, there are sixty black and Hispanic students, sixty international students in the freshman class.

"It's an alert and academically committed group," said Lindholm, "I've received a lot of unsolicited praise from professors."

The tone of the dormitories is also different from other freshmen classes. There has been less damage and fewer alcoholic violations committed by the new class, Lindholm said.

Summing up the semester, Lindholm said, "Certain events have forced the college to take a good, hard look at itself. Middlebury is definitely at an interesting time in its history."

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Gifford apartment contributes new step in dorm development

By Amy Hillier

In addition to providing housing for summer language school faculty members, an apartment added to Gifford during its renovations this summer has created an additional opportunity for upperclassmen women to enjoy an intimate living situation, according to Director of Residential Life Frank Kelley.

Because the apartment is appropriate for faculty members, such a setup could ultimately be used if the College incorporates the Task Force on Student Life's recommendation for "a program of faculty affiliation with the residence halls," into dormitory renovation plans, said Dean of the College Ann Hanson who acted as chairperson for the Task Force.

"I don't think that anyone sees them in the room next door [to the students]," Hanson said of the possibility that faculty will inhabit the dormitories. A separate apartment like that in Gifford could be used to keep the faculty somewhat removed from students.

The idea of faculty members living in the dorm is a long-term realistic possibility but, Hanson said, is one that merits careful consideration and is made feasible by living arrangements like the apartment in Gifford.

While the Task Force report recommended the creation of residences fully integrated by class, it also stated that seniors should be given preference in block draws until such a system is established. Kelley said that housing in the Gifford apartment will reflect that preference and will be reserved for upperclassmen.

In addition to giving seniors privileges in room draw, the apartment will also help balance the living options of men and women. Kelley said. Men still have the advantage in the residential system, he explained, because they have the chance to live in one of the five fraternity houses. The Gifford apartment, like the North Dorm quadruple and first floor of Hillcrest, will give women a chance to escape what Kelley refers to as the "mob scene" in regular dormitories.

Kelley conceived the idea of the apartment when renovation of Gifford was being planned last year. Formerly used by employees working in administrative computing, Kelley believed that the area would make a great living space for students.

Kelley said that apartments or other creative living arrangements will be worked into future renovations when possible. "We need to have plans that can meet special needs, especially as we diversify our campus," he said.

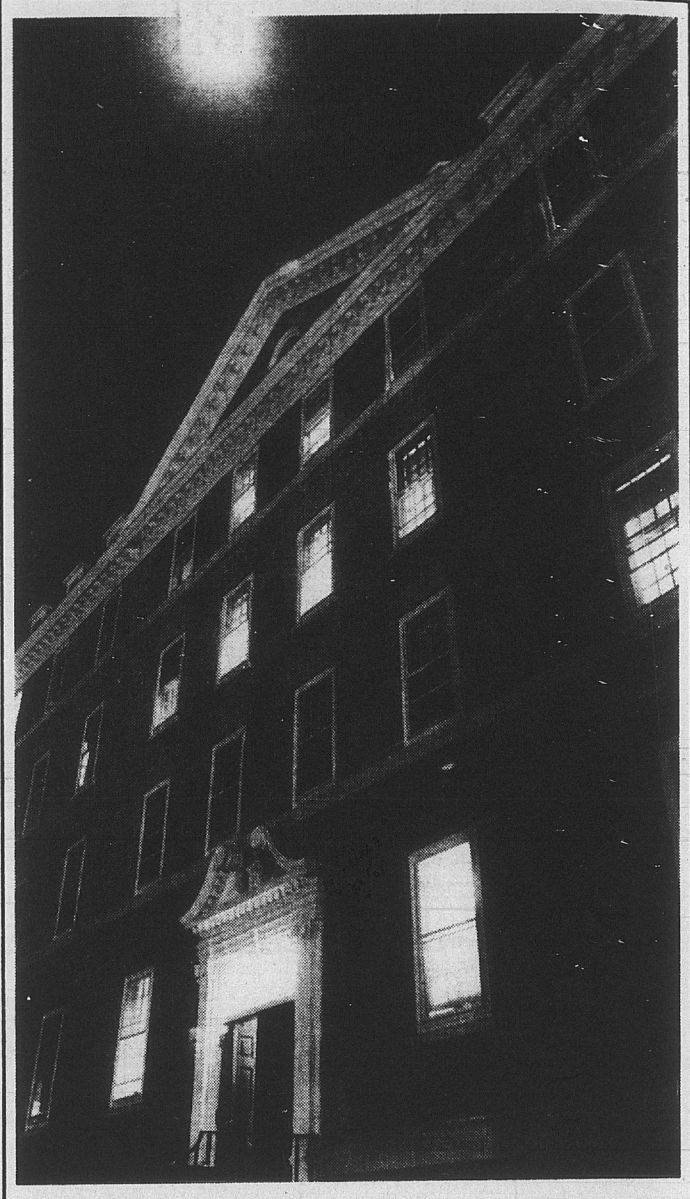
"I'm always looking for different or alternative living arrangements for students," Kelley said. Despite competing visions of what the renovated space could become, Kelley's idea of the apartment was worked into renovation plans.

The Gifford apartment is located at the west end of the annex and currently houses three junior women. The upstairs consists of a double room and bathroom and the downstairs of a single room, lounge and kitchen.

"It's been really spacious compared to the rooms I've had before," said Kim Shephard, who lives in the double. The apartment allows her to separate academic and social life in the dorm, she said, with the lounge downstairs and a work place upstairs.

Shephard said they were lucky because Kelley, who did not include the apartment in the block draw, offered them the room at the very end of the spring semester last year. They were not sure what the apartment would be like but, since the initial breaking in, (fixing windows, the heat and ranges), the apartment has worked out well.

Kelley said that apartments or other creative living arrangements will be worked into future dormitory renovations when possible. "We need to have plans that can meet special needs, especially as we diversify our campus," he said, referring not only to minorities but also to non-traditional students. Married couples, two of which are currently housed in the Hillcrest apartment and in Pearson's basement, would have additional options with apartments. Kelley already has plans to include the wings in Gifford, (consisting of a double, two singles, a bathroom and small kitchen), in the block draw next spring.



Gifford Hall, site of new apartment *File photo*

U.S. Justice Department investigation continues

By Colin Leonard

The United States Justice Department's investigation into possible practices of illegal collusion at Middlebury College is ongoing. The investigation, which centers on the methods that Middlebury use to set tuition and award financial aid packages, began late last summer.

Approximately twenty-two private colleges and universities are under investigation by the Justice Department for possible violations of anti-trust laws in relation to the manner in which colleges share data on tuition and financial aid for specific students.

If a prospective student applies for financial aid to three colleges which share data, chances are the three awards will be very similar. But if there is any great disparity, the three colleges get together and decide upon a common award. College officials stand behind this policy because they believe it allows students to attend the college of their choice, based not on financial need, but upon the school's qualifications.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs John McCardell said that the college sent off final sets of documents "a number of weeks ago." The investigation included the scrutiny of the college's financial aid records, transcripts of phone conversations and other documents.

McCardell said the college has "no new comment" on the investigation and is "just sitting tight...hoping nothing new will happen."

Since the investigation began, at least one private lawsuit has been filed charging that schools, in addition to colluding in their financial aid practices, get together to determine what they will charge for tuition and fees. Roger Kingsepp, a senior at Wesleyan University, filed his lawsuit in United States District Court in New York, "on behalf of thousands of students hurt in an alleged tuition price-fixing scheme."

According to an October 10 article in the Wall Street Journal, Kingsepp's suit "seeks triple damages under Federal anti-price fixing laws." The twelve defendants in the suit are Wesleyan University, Yale University, Amherst College, Harvard University, Williams College, Columbia University, Cornell University, Brown University, Dartmouth College, Princeton University, Stanford University and the University of Pennsylvania.

Lisa Swan, a spokeswoman for United States Senator James Jeffords of Vermont, said that although the Senator was out of the state, she believed he would "not be terribly willing to comment on an ongoing Justice Department investigation."

A spokesman for US Senator Pat Leahy of Vermont said he was "not familiar with the issue."

The Justice Department has given no timetable for completion of the investigation.

This is the last issue of The Campus in the 1980's. Hope you have an even better decade than the last. See you in the spring under new management. Good luck Middlebury—

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FEATURES

Line out: How to lose with booze

By John Hurst

At the risk of sounding like Andy Rooney, did you ever wonder why people have such a fascination for chemically altering their minds? Since the beginning of recorded history, it seems that every culture has found a way to whack itself out on substances alien to the human body. Is it a genuine need, exclusive to our species, to step outside the mind we are given, or does the need arise simply from a kind of morbid curiosity, or am I asking trite, pseudo-intellectual questions in hopes of finding some all-encompassing answer to man's problems and winning a Pulitzer prize in exploratory journalism? I'd like to think that the answer to all three questions is "yes." That way, I have a reason to continue.

This whole business started a few weeks ago when I had the singular pleasure/privilege of reaching my twenty-first birthday. It's weird—you expect some kind of revelation, or bells, whistles, fireworks. All I got was a couple of shirts, checks from Grandma, and my personal insurance card from James and Co. or whomever they are.

So why not have a minimum intelligence for drinking, instead of a minimum age?

I remember, the first thing I did was look at my driver's license as if I were a bouncer scrutinizing it for authenticity.

Bouncer: "Yup, I reckon it's real, but ya still look a might young ta me."

Me: "Yes, well, sir, I am indeed twenty-one years of age."

Bouncer: "Sure y'are, sweetheart. Five bucks cover...and watch the pile of puke in the doorway there. Wouldn't wanna go trackin' it inside."

The reality was somewhat different. For one thing, the guys I dealt with had all their neurons and chromosomes properly aligned. The kicker, though, was that *no one* checked my I.D. There were times when I was tempted to make a stink about it, and say "Hey, how do you know for sure that I'm old enough to buy this beer?" With the power of hindsight, though, I can see what an idiotic thing that would have been.

What I really wanted was to make up for all those times downtown when my friends whipped out their cute little green liquor I.D.'s, and I could only smile and look woefully underaged, like a cheap wine. You see, I was one of those unfortunate enough to be born just on the other side of the grandfather date. This being the case, many peers, my freshman roommate included, were legal to drink in Vermont, whereas I was doomed to sit around and break dorm windows in juvenile frustration. What pissed me off was that people in my class, a few months older than I, were technically adults for three years before I was. But, you figure, the line has to be drawn *somewhere*, even if it does seem arbitrary.

In Europe and other parts of the world, where no age is enforced, teenage alcohol abuse is not a major problem, since it's not a big deal to drink. In high school, everyone who drank did so more as an act of defiance and social status

(continued on page 8)

A television insider reflects on the small screen

A chat with Middlebury English Professor Ron Powers, TV critic and author

By David Muhlbaum

Although Visiting English Professor Ron Powers only began teaching full-time at Middlebury this fall, his bearded face might be familiar to attentive TV watchers. For five years, he was a media critic at CBS News Sunday Morning*—and in 1985 won a national Emmy for his work on that program. Powers' on-air commentary drew from a long involvement with television, dating back to 1970 when he began writing radio and TV criticism for* The Chicago Sun-Times*—for which he won the Pulitzer Prize in Criticism in 1973. Powers has written two books about television:* The Newscasters: The News Business as Show Business, *and* Super Tube: The Rise of Television Sports, *and writes a media column for* GQ *magazine. A compilation of those columns is due out in April under the quirky title of* The Beast, the Eunuch, and the Glass-eyed Child.

But Powers' accomplishments are not limited to the small screen—he has also written two novels, as well as White Town Drowsing: Journeys to Hannibal, *an account of his hometown's celebration of the Mark Twain Sesquicentennial. A self-described "journeyman writer," Powers has been associated with Middlebury College's Bread Loaf Writers Conference since 1979, first as a Fellow in Fiction, and then as a non-fiction member. He is currently writing another book about American towns.*

Although he has terminated his association with CBS news to work full-time at Middlebury, Powers is still involved with the video world. Besides his columns for GQ, Powers is co-hosting with Middlebury's own Jay Parini a show for The Learning Channel—"The Classics"—10 films adapted from "great books." Powers and Parini will both introduce the films and discuss how the films treat the original texts.

Powers is married to Honoree Fleming, who is a visiting professor of chemistry at Middlebury. They have two children.

D.M. How did your colleagues at CBS see your career choice to move up here to Vermont—it would seem that you really pulled away from the television world in New York?

R.P. Well, the real thing is that I never really pulled into it. I was in it but not of it. There was a point in my life where it really meant something to me to prove to myself that I could do that sort of work—your basic male competitive instincts. You know, "Can I be on CBS Sunday Morning?—Well, I want to try." And then I did it, and I thought "Well that's nice," but I was sitting in a cubby hole on West 57th street in a windowless room five days a week for the privilege of being on the air four minutes—and life was rushing by. I certainly formed strong individual friendships, but I never had a sense of identity with the organization. Being a television critic on television, the organization never really lets you feel that identity. I was always something of an irritant—you know, the bird on the tongue of the crocodile.

D.M. You were at CBS right as much of the commercial changes and pressures rolled in on television journalism. What was that like?

D.M. At CBS Sunday Morning?

R.P. Well, although its management changed, to the detriment of the program, Sunday Morning remained a classy, serious, authentic magazine show. It was never humiliating to work for Sunday Morning.

D.M. I wonder if you feel that what happened at CBS has expanded to the other networks—that the same pressures have brought about the repackaging of television news—the re-creation of the Bloch incident, the "news live" shows—is this an extension of the same need to "sell" aggressively?

R.P. I think it's a disaster, almost an irreparable disaster. The dimensions of it are almost incalculable. This is something I'm addressing in my upcoming book (*The Glass Eye...*) What TV did in the 1980's was to jettison most of the references to its own history. It ceased to be derivative of the movies, of the radio, of the newspaper, of the Broadway stage. It became *sui generis* —its own entity, and began in a very abrupt and radical way to set the agenda for the print media, for political life, for education, for

"What TV did in the 1980's was to jettison most of the references to its own history. It ceased to be derivative of the movies, of the radio, of the newspaper, of the Broadway stage. It became sui generis —its own entity."

A new face in the English Dept. *Photo by Melissa Barrett*

entertainment. Now it has been accused of doing that since World War II; it's not something that happened *completely* out of the blue, but the shift in velocity was significant. What happened was MTV. MTV had an influence on the medium far beyond its appeal to its own audience. The rapid edit, the abolition of narrative, the constant montage of exquisite, burnished, jewel-like images without context was television's id bubbling up to the surface. The MTV style was what TV had secretly been about since the first transmitter was turned on. It overflowed into television news—*48 Hours, West 57th* —the pace of the newscast itself.

D.M. Did the Reagan administration's amazing handling and control of the media contribute to this change?

R.P. Absolutely. Nobody understood television like the Reagan men, and there were new television tools for them to take advantage of. Their "Tuesday Group"—advertisers who rallied to Reagan and created those fantastic commercials for the second campaign—really broke down the final barriers between the discourse of information and the propagandistic image. The Deavers of the world grasped that sense of the free-floating image detached from narrative or any kind of argument that had been bubbling up from advertising, and that attained critical mass in the 1980's and drove everything before it.

D.M. Where's the future of TV? Is it "Remote Control"—are we going to have a culture where television and its associated culture become the dominant focus?

R.P. This is where the counterweight comes in. It could be, I suppose, but what's starting to happen is that independent videomakers have formed an aesthetic. in video festivals, small showings, and on PBS once in a while, there has emerged a strong, promising, and fertile new art form in independent video. They've formed a lobbying group for Congress, and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting is now required to set aside money to get independent video on the air. These people, who are free from corporate and advertising money and the pressures attached to that, get more airtime and appeal to people, may be the best hope we have. I don't think that television is inherently decadent—there are possibilities for meditating on history, political dissent, political consciousness. These things can happen, and I hope that they will get the kind of minimal exposure either through PBS or cable channels that will allow people to understand that these people exist.

D.M. You wrote in *White Town Drowsing* at the end that you really felt a pull to return to that small-town atmosphere and the conflict with your professional life in New York. I'm wondering if Vermont and Middlebury have to some extent satisfied that pull.

R.P. This is a very happy place to end up—Middlebury satisfies a lot of yearnings in my life. It's a very compelling town—although it's reeling from a lot of forces that I'm writing about in my (upcoming) book about towns: tensions between newcomers and generational families, new money and old price and wage structures that are creating all kinds of housing tensions, development, the disappearance of the farm—these are real issues, and not to be trivialized. But having said that, this is probably a more textured and healthy community with all its tensions than most towns in America. There seems to be a boom or bust cycle at work in towns—towns along the Mississippi River and in the rust belt are simply bleeding themselves out of existences slowly, while other towns that are in the orbit of major cities are finding themselves jerked abruptly back into the late 20th century.

Middlebury Bowling Lanes strike students' attention

Welcome to MIDDLEBURY LANES

By Laurie Greco

How many times have you sat in your car en route to Rutland for a Burger King spree or returned cold and wet from the Snow Bowl to pass the Middlebury Bowling Lanes? Many times I'm sure.

But have you also then reminded yourself of the joys of throwing a heavy, three-holed ball at a set of inanimate objects? Bowling must be one of man's answers to the streak of violence in all of us.

Not surprisingly, I have experienced just such a realization, (not the violence part but the re-discovery of the Middlebury lanes), and decided that I would just have to do it...sometime. So I did. As a result, I, and a number of my friends, came to the conclusion that bowling is fun and cheap (sorry, inexpensive), as well as a great stress reliever.

Have you reminded yourself of the joys of throwing a heavy, three-holed ball at a set of inanimate objects?

Used to the highly technical, many-laned, computerized bowling alleys at home, I found the Middlebury lanes had a welcoming hominess. Immediately inside the door is the locker area—a small, squarish room that leads into the main room. The small snack bar/grill to the right creates an atmosphere comparable that at the Snow Bowl lodge. Proudly displayed on the walls are the records of the leagues which constitute the proudest use of the lanes. I imagined families, kid's birthday parties, and groups of competitive, but friendly leagues would assemble here.

Mr. Edward Tyl, the second owner of the Middlebury Bowling Lanes was seated behind the snack bar waiting for the leaguers to arrive that afternoon. An Addison County resident, Tyl bought the lanes from its original owner who opened them in 1961. Since the acquisition, Tyl has redone the lanes and overcome several structural problems to raise the alley into the flourishing business it has become.

Tyl is interested in having groups of college people partake in the sport as long as they remain reasonably calm and preferably within the limits of the law.

I asked Tyl if college students were a substantial part of his business. Assuring me that he "had nothing against college kids," he did say his greatest problem was with the theft of shoes. As long as problems such as this occur, he will not make a great effort to encourage the students here, he said. However, Tyl is interested in having groups of college people partake in the sport as long as they remain reasonably calm and preferably within the limits of the law.

With these requests in mind, the college student should have a go at the sport. The price for bowling is $1.20 per game and $.50 for shoes with a discount for student ID's. Open bowling is on Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Wednesday 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Thursday 3 p.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Championships are held on Saturdays.

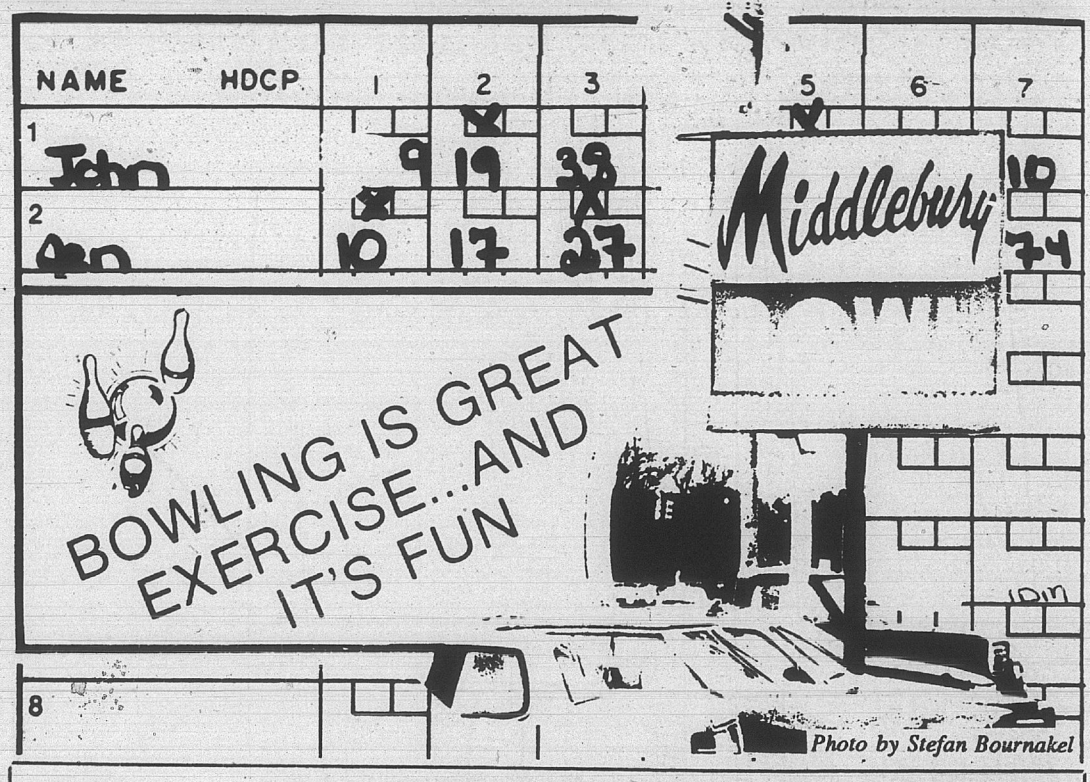
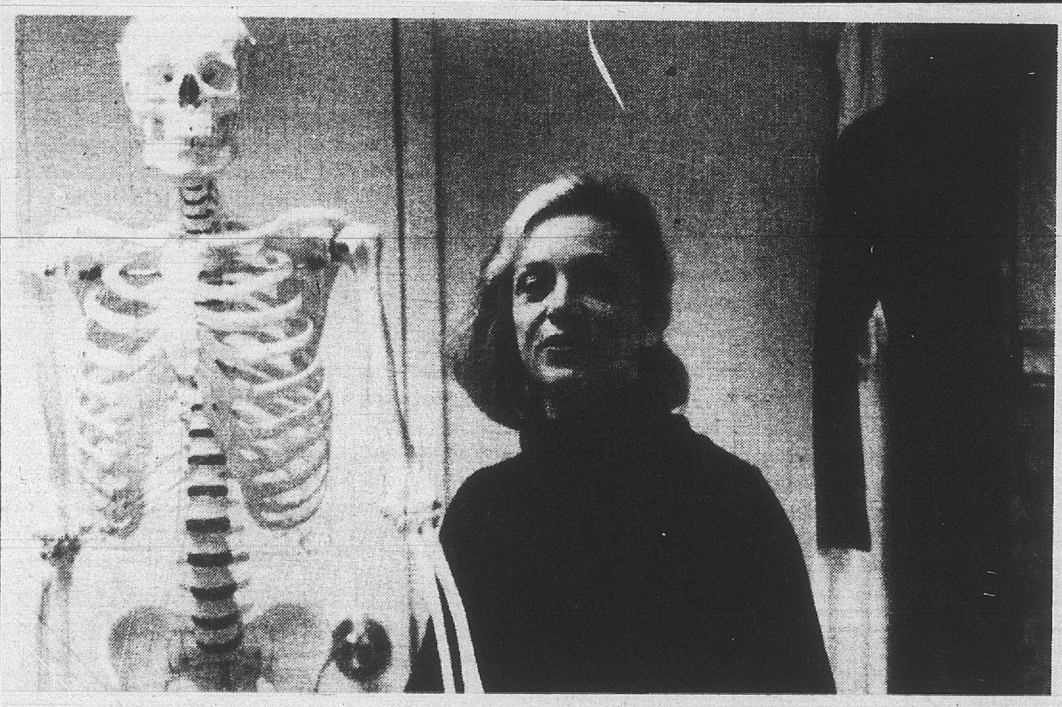


Photo by Stefan Bournakel



On November 19 Andrea Olson's human-bone skeleton was stolen along with the skull of a plastic skeleton.

Photo by Stefan Bournakel

The following is an excerpt from Bodystories, A Guide To Experiential Anatomy by Andrea Olson:

Story: Assembling the Skeleton

When I came to teach Anatomy and Kinesiology in the dance program at Middlebury College we purchased a human skeleton (from the Guest Artist budget!). My colleague, Caryn McHose, and I unpacked the skull and spine and began carefully assembling the other bones. As we held each one we said, "Oh, this the way a femur (thigh bone) looks;" "Oh, this is the size of the pelvis;" "Oh, this is the shape of the clavicle (collar bone)." When we got to the top, the screw which connected the skull to the metal support stand was broken. So we disassembled our skeleton and mailed it back to the company. A month later, our second skeleton arrived. We were surprised that the femur was different, the pelvis had new proportions, the clavicle was less curved. We were reminded of the uniqueness of each person."

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Man fulfills dream of owning Christmas tree farm

By Allison Mintz

Located between Bristol and Middlebury a small town called New Haven appears on the map. While the scenery in New Haven typifies a rural Vermont setting, a certain site distinguishes it from other towns. Diverging from a main road, a dusty path leads to a place called New Haven Mills. The home of man named John Plank is situated on the property amidst nine acres of Christmas trees. This farm of luscious pines did not materialize at random, but with a dream and the perseverance of one man.

In 1938 14-year-old Plank worked for a landscaper in New Jersey. During his Thanksgiving vacation Plank followed the instructions of his employer and placed Christmas wreaths on the handlebars of his bicycle. Cruising through the streets on his wreath-laden vehicle, Plank stopped at houses to eagerly convince neighbors to buy his goods.

Cruising through the streets on his wreath-laden vehicle, Plank stopped at houses to eagerly convince neighbors to buy his goods.

After the spring planting, Plank properly cares for the trees during the other seasons. This maintenance includes fertilization and mechanically mowing between the rows to diminish the weed growth. Four to five years later when the trees have reached a height of three to four feet, Plank shears the branches to give them shape. Each tree grows at a different pace until it reaches its pinnacle height of six to eight feet. The scotch pine reaches maturity within six to nine years, while the balsam fir must wait ten to twelve years to attain harvest size.

Plank has not labored alone in pursuit of his dream. The Vocational Center in Middlebury sends two to six students from their horticulture and forestry departments to work on Plank's farm during the summer. Occasionally he allows a qualified student to participate in a cooperative internship on the farm. During the winter months Plank hires two local high school students to assist him in his arboreal responsibilities.

Once a tree reaches maturity, it is ready to be cut and sold, or, as Plank describes the purchase, "tagged, sold and cut." When the Christmas season approaches, families trek to Plank's farm to choose their seasonal embellishments of green splendor. After they find a tree to their liking, they "tag" it, or claim it, make a payment, and then cut it themselves.

If individuals opt for this method of choosing, buying, and cutting their own tree, they receive a retail price for their purchase—$22 for a scotch pine and $28 for a balsam fir. Plank compares this purchase of the Christmas tree to the familial quest for the yule log: "There's an old tradition that a family would go into the woods to find one log of fine wood that could burn a long time. My Christmas trees are an extension of this idea. Families come to my farm in hopes of finding a sturdy tree that will last a long time."

Not only does Plank sell his trees to Vermonters partaking in the holiday spirit, but he offers wholesale prices to entrepreneurs who wish to buy large quantities of trees and sell them elsewhere. During the early years when most of his trees were seedlings, he sold his first harvest to wholesalers to reap profits. With a more developed crop nowadays, Plank prefers to sell the products of his pride and joy to the local families.

Undoubtedly, Plank has gained financially as a result of his ambitious endeavors. The monetary rewards, however, seem insignificant to him as he recounts proud moments as a tree farm proprietor:

(continued on page 8)

"There's an old tradition that a family would go into the woods to find one log of fine wood that could burn a long time. My Christmas trees are an extension of this idea. Families come to my farm in hopes of finding a sturdy tree that will last a long time."

20 years later Plank moved to Connecticut to work for a company that manufactured analytical instruments. He lived happily with his wife and two sons in his suburban community. Plank, however, felt restless as childhood memories of selling Christmas commodities returned to him. With a desire to recapture those memories of the Christmas season, he bought a home in southern Vermont. Standing one day on his 160 acres of towering pine in the Green Mountain State, Plank realized his dream—to own a tree farm.

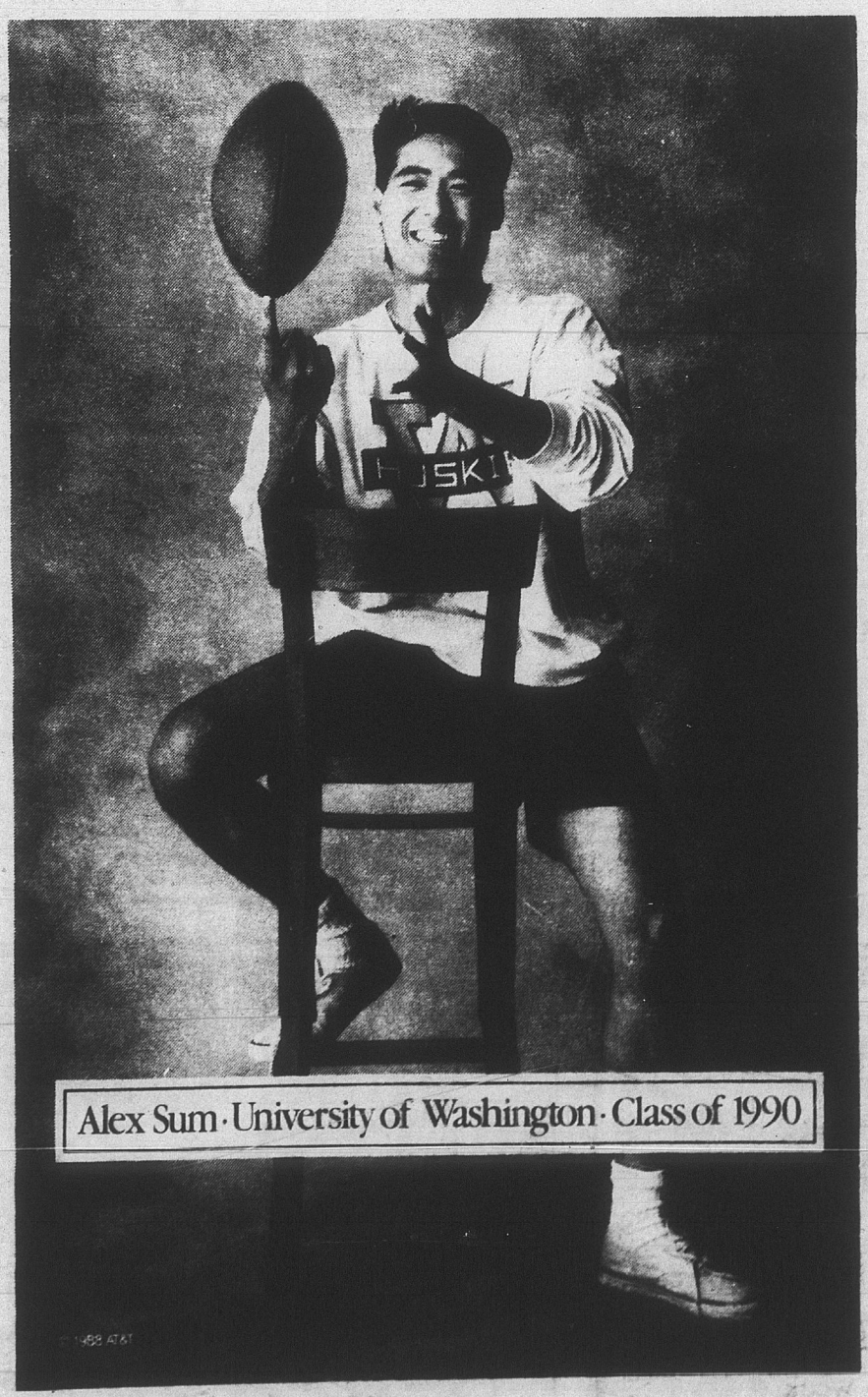
While he continued to work for the company, he never abandoned his dream. When Plank retired in 1970, he decided to pursue his aspirations. He sold both his homes to purchase his farm in New Haven Mills. With ample cash flow and family support, Plank vigorously toiled in the soil to develop his tree farm.

Another 20 years later Plank has become a prosperous grower and seller of Christmas trees. He speaks enthusiastically about his farm and business.

Plank grows 14 varieties of trees. These types include the balsam fir, the traditional, fragrant Christmas tree, and the scotch pine, another perennial favorite. Displaying horticultural savvy, Plank explained that both trees hold their needles better and live longer than the other varieties.

Plank grows almost 1,200 trees on each acre of land, averaging about 10,000 on his total farm. He works year-round to care for each stage in the trees' life cycle. In late May and early April he plants seedlings that stand at eight to 16 inches. He purchases these small trees from state nurseries in Essex Junction or from commercial nurseries, such as paper companies that have surplus seedlings from reforestation programs.

"I wasn't rubbing it in—I just wanted Eddie to know the score of last night's game."



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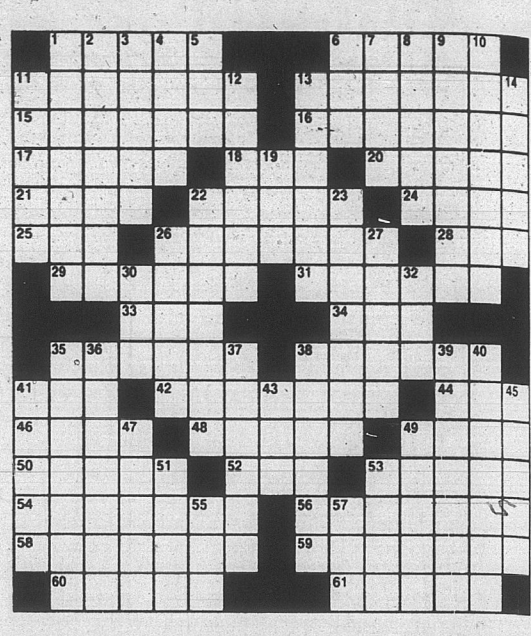
Crossword | Edited by Eugene T. Maleska



ACROSS

1 Plump roasting fowl
6 Side dish
11 Vessel for making tea
13 Nigerian port
15 Nutty confection
16 The Crimson Tide
17 Elected
18 Surly, churly fellow
20 Great Athenian statesman
21 Crucifix
22 Skived
24 Billy or Pete
25 Blunder
26 Ensigns
28 Mary Lincoln, ——'Todd
29 Autocrat
31 Actress Welch
33 Mouths
34 Paronomasia
35 Assuage
38 Prickly flower
41 Sports award
42 First U.S. spaceman
44 Cover
46 Abrade
48 Hall of Fame pitcher —— Wynn
49 Communiqué
50 Moved in a curve
52 Holden Caulfield's milieu
53 Quibble
54 Most unoriginal
56 Detail
58 Troublemakers
59 Entertained
60 Gathers
61 Honored, in a way

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

S	A	F	A	R	I	S		P	E	N	D	A	N	T
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E	N	L	A	R	G	E		T	A	L	E	N	T	S
S	T	E	P	S	O	N		E	S	T	A	T	E	S

DOWN

1 Hudson shelter
2 Loving
3 Propelled a raft
4 "Metamorphoses" author
5 Masefield's "The Tragedy of ——"
6 Word with soda or volatile
7 Oh me!
8 Drudgery
9 Sea-ear
10 Young woman, in poesy
11 Germ cell
12 Repudiate
13 Calling
14 She might wear a chador
19 See 11 Across
22 Verve; flair
23 Hanging
26 Outbuildings
27 TV's "The Mod ——"
30 Eggs
32 Us, in Bonn
35 Clemency
36 Costly; elegant
37 Card game
38 Gift
39 Hoist
40 Finite
41 Cloth for toweling
43 What quidnuncs do
45 Gave sparingly
47 Alexander the Great's birthplace
49 French revolutionary
51 Profound
53 Manitoban group
55 Alums-to-be
57 Sandy's sound

Christmas trees tagged for sale

(continued from page 7)

"People have come to tag trees as early as September. One man from New Jersey bought a tree and then tagged another one he plans to buy for next year."

The scotch pine reaches maturity within six to nine years, while the balsam fir must wait ten to twelve years to attain harvest size.

When Plank speaks of the families who come to his farm, his voice becomes softer, gentler: "The fun thing about this business is that Christmas comes only once a year. People are happier. Families spend more time together and it's great having the kids on the farm when they come with their parents."

Not only has Plank fulfilled his aspirations, but his behavior exemplifies the Christmas spirit: the act of giving to others. For Plank, this spirit began back in 1938 on his bicycle.

Chemical alterations

(continued from page 5)

than anything else. The people who messed themselves up were those who were too stupid to know when to stop, or not to drive, or not to come in when their parents were waiting up. So why not have a minimum intelligence for drinking, instead of a minimum age? This would weed out the inevitable drunken, belligerent cementheads who start bar fights and make life generally unpleasant, as well as discouraging those incapable of advanced thought from damaging their already beleaguered brain cells and wrapping their car around a telephone pole, or worse, someone's body. Then again, that would probably deprive us of the pleasure of watching *The Last Prom*. Quite a trade-off.

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ARTS

Verona in Vermont

The Fall Production Company presents Shakespeare.

By E J Kavounas

"It must be nice to be a man/and sail off to Milan. It must be nice to be a man/and not be pregnant."

"I love my father, I want to tell him."

What? You say you didn't see John Guare's musical version of William Shakespeare's "Two Gentlemen of Verona" which was presented by the Department of Theatre, Dance and Film/Video from November 15-18? Certainly you couldn't have missed people coming out of Wright Theatre on the evenings of the show singing "I'm planning to write a symphony," "Nothing wetter than a hot night letter," and "Thurio's Samba, Boom chick-a chick-a chick-a . . . "

This production was directed by Cheryl Faraone. The two gentlemen of Verona were Valentine, played by Greg Naughton '90, and Proteus played by Claudio Medeiros '90. The other two leads were Phoebe Wood '90 as Silvia and Katharine Bashant '90 as Julia. Also featured in the cast were Paul Cusimano '92 (as the Duke of Milan), Liz Hopper '91 who played Lucetta (Julia's friend and servant), Matthew Yeoman '93 as Thurio (betrothed to Silvia), Dan Coyne '92 as Eglamour (Silvia's long lost lover), Ben Halpern '93 as Launce (servant and friend of Proteus), Speed (servant of Valentine) was played by Matthew A. Saldivar '92 and Antonio (Proteus' father) by Glenn Bryant '92.

The chorus was Lajeania "Gigi" Broadie '92, Kate Kelly '91, Judy Levenson '91, Jim Meyer '92, Mila Pavek '92, Nina Silver '93, and Aimee Young '93. Levenson was also the Assistant to the Director and Medeiros was the Choreographer. Megan Underwood Stage Managed this production. Bob Peskin was the musical Director. Steve Stusek was the Conductor.

The story is essentially: two young Veronian men leave their small town for the exciting adventure and romance that awaits them in the big city, Milano. Valentine falls in love with Silvia who happens to be the Duke's daughter.

To complicate things Proteus falls in love with Silvia too. Proteus is a somewhat evil character who has previously pledged his love back in Verona to the loyal Julia. Proteus arranges to have Valentine apprehended by the Duke and consequently, Valentine gets shipped off to war. In the end—as in all happy Shakespearean romances—Valentine and Silvia are reunited as are Julia and Proteus.

Within the architecture of this basic story line, Gaure adds and develops political and social themes which were topical discussions at the time he wrote the musical (with Mel Shapiro and Galt MacDermot) in the early 70's. Some of these issues are controversy over the Vietnam War, abortion, women's liberation, the end of popular drug use, and group therapy.

Many of these issues become the subject of musical numbers in Guare's version. An abortion is debated at the end of the musical when Julia decides what to do about Valentine's baby since he has got her pregnant and run off. Lucetta warns her friend Julia, singing "don't have the baby;" while Speed confuses her by singing "you must have the baby." Julia decides to have the baby and reverts back to the Shakespearean lines to announce her resolution to Proteus who also responds in the Shakespeare of the original play.

Bashant said that she spent a lot of time learning how to deal with these types of transitions between musical and Shakespeare as she prepared for her performance as Julia. Bashant commented on the process Faraone directed the cast through in order to be thoroughly comfortable with their characters and with the script. Bashant said "we started with the music and once we got that we rehearsed with the Shakespeare." Bashant still found the ending "bizarre" because "everyone ends up happy." Naughton reflected upon his experiences as Valentine, "it is hard to hold onto the reality of the play when you start singing in the middle."

Much of the drama of the play was highly exaggerated. This was what made it so much fun for the audience. Everything was blown out of proportion. Nobody sings songs about packing a bag in real life, do they? They do if they are Proteus: "what does a lover pack?" Of course, the subtext of this song is that Proteus has emotionally protected himself in his relationship with Julia, but every-day sounding dialogue is integrated into just about every number in Guare's "Two Gentlemen of Verona."

Leads from the Fall Production Company's "Two Gentlemen of Verona." *Photo by Erik Borg*

Naughton commented that these musical interludes in which the drama is exaggerated work when juxtaposed with Shakespeare's text because the drama of Shakespeare is often itself exaggerated, "Shakespeare is big—musicals are big." The two styles often compliment each other in Guare's version.

Although the play could be interpreted as farcical, this performance had very serious and honest undertones. Naughton comments that "the temptation was to play it for the audience. But Cheryl directed me against cheap laughs...the harder thing is to invest in the character, to believe in the character."

I think this was one of the real assets of the production. It was fun for the audience, but you never stopped believing in any of the characters. They may have bursted into song and dance at highly dramatic moments, but it always felt like they were in control.

Bashant also stated that Faraone "wouldn't let us let go of the drama." As Assistant to the Director, Levenson thought that this was one of the difficulties with a musical, "a musical was a lot more work because...you're still acting when you're singing." Bashant said that they "sang to try to keep the Shakespeare;" and that they did things in the performance, such as emphasize certain words, while they sang in order to develop their characters and move the story along.

In the beginning of rehearsals, Naughton thought that there wasn't enough in his character for him to "sink his teeth into." He thought that Valentine was basically a nice guy, who wanted to meet a lot of people and be famous. "I was musically pleased with my part, but I didn't find it dramatically interesting. I found it easier to make the music work than the acting." Naughton felt that he was ultimately successful, but that it was not an interesting role.

Although Naughton pulled it off admirably, there did seem to be a hole where Valentine's character should have been. This might have been due to the fact that Sylvia, Julia and Proteus all had such easily defined character traits (persecuted, loyal, opportunistic) that partially eclipsed Valentine. Naughton didn't feel comfortable about his character until the last week of rehearsals.

Levenson commented that there were "changes in every scene up until the last night." According to Levenson, "the first night wasn't great...it was still kind of a dress rehearsal."

This is surprising because the Saturday performance was terrific and very polished. All of the musical numbers were energetically executed and some were exceptional. "What does a lover pack?" was upbeat and wonderfully bizarre. Half the audience will always remember Silvia's hot letter song in which she was genuinely sexy (even the other half thought so). The Duke's songs, especially the one with Thurio, were very good and unexpected. The music was performed competently throughout. And I never found my self anticipating the musical numbers, they literally jumped out of the dramatic action at the least likely moments.

I wasn't exactly sure what was supposed to be happening during the forest scenes when the chorus dressed up in brown jumpsuits and prowled around the dark stage. It didn't bother me much.

The only part of the performance in which the actors seemed to be out of character was during the finale. Bashant explained that the beginning and ending parts were "us being ourselves;" sort of existential episodes in which the cast experienced an overture of the emotions in the musical.

The finale then could be interpreted as the cast coming out of their experiences in the play feeling good about themselves. One of the themes of the play was group therapy or mental help groups which were a big thing at the time the play was written. A lyric in the beginning number is "you can't love another/without loving yourself," which lends itself to this mental help group idea.

Reflecting upon the experience as a whole, Bashant said about the cast "everyone was always up and optimistic and we left the rehearsals still singing the songs." I think that's a pretty accurate account of how the audience responded to the Fall Production Company's "Two Gentlemen of Verona."

Graduates travel the winding road to success

By Matt Hoenck

Amidst the comings and goings in the lobby of Middlebury's Starr Library is situated an exhibit entitled "10 For Tomorrow." A display of recent Middlebury graduate's successful ventures into the competitive world of art, "Ten For Tomorrow" features works from a variety of fields. There to show us what our predecessors have done with their creativity and imagination, it is also an inspiration for us not to waste ours.

The exhibit's pieces are those of two dancers, four artists, a film maker, a poet, a scholar, and a dramatist. As the curator for the exhibit, Bob Buckeye remarked that he wants students "to see this display of 10 recent Middlebury College graduates as street talk."

Buckeye has collected the work of students that have gone against the grain of traditional, scholarly work.

The paintings, writings, and sketches all lean to the subversive. Buckeye added in his remarks, "There are hidden agendas, unspoken assumptions, ideological bias in even the most neutral of presentations."

These are not just "nice" works of art, but subtle and provocative. The exhibit was not constructed along the lines of normal museum and library exhibits. It is meant to appear as subversive as "street talk" would in the lobby of any college library.

Robert Gober, one of the ten, graduated from Middlebury in 1976. In an eye-catching fabric on paint, he depicts the simple image of a lynched black man and a sleeping white man. As reviewed in the *New York Times*, "These simple images, almost child-like in their rendering, contrasted extremes of peacefulness and violence, dream and nightmare, power and powerlessness...It was an explosive juxtaposition."

Fred Cray's, '79, work features two color photographs of people sitting around Coney Island. His "Self-Portrait" offers an interesting view of growing up in our world of worlds.

The film maker of the group, Jonathan Glascoe, '78, is featured in "A Child's Christmas in Wales." The film won numerous awards after its appearance on PBS.

Christopher Merrill, '79, has become a respected and published poet. He directs both the Santa Fe Writer's Conference and the Taos Conference on Writing and the Natural World.

It is said of Avital Ronell's, '74, *The Telephone Book*, that it actually opens up a new field. "And it offers a fresh reading of the American and European addiction to technology in which the telephone emerges as a crucial figure."

The two dancers of the group are Elise Long, '77, and Johanna Boyce, '76. Among programs, choreographer's notes, and photographs lies an appraisal by Debora Jowitt of the *Village Voice*. "Long's work balances on some curious dividing line between very intelligent art and home theatricals. It's certainly not boring." Long is said to have a knack for putting people together in wonderfully compatible ensembles.

Boyce, the other dancer, is considered by the *New York Times* to be a "leading young post-modernist." In a *New York Times* review, Jack Anderson writes, "In her use of non-dancers, Johanna Boyce becomes an equivalent of sculptors who prefer to use unpolished metals. He continues, "Implicit in Miss Boyce's choreography is a faith in human nature and life itself."

"...'10 for Tomorrow' features works from a variety of fields. There to show us what our predecessors have done with their creativity and imagination, it is also an inspiration for us not to waste ours."

As an artist, Julie Wachtel, '78, contributed two very thought-provoking pieces to the exhibit. She commented, "I put images together that want to break apart...The images start to work by signalling their common marginality."

Another artist, Jane McGriff, '76, is featured by her pastel on paper of a lone piano. Her writings also offer ideas worth dwelling on.

Among Eve Ensler's, '75, plays, "Ladies" and "The Depot" are featured in this exhibit. Ensler remarked about one of her plays, "I determined that it would be a play of monologues instead of dialogues, because homeless women cannot afford the luxury of dialogue. It's too intimate, too threatening."

Ironically enough, this exhibit stands amid accusations of the complacency of Middlebury students. These ten products of our school all graduated within five years of each other. They are still young and traveling on the road to even further successes.

Jewelry crafted with vigor

By Wendy Rivenburgh

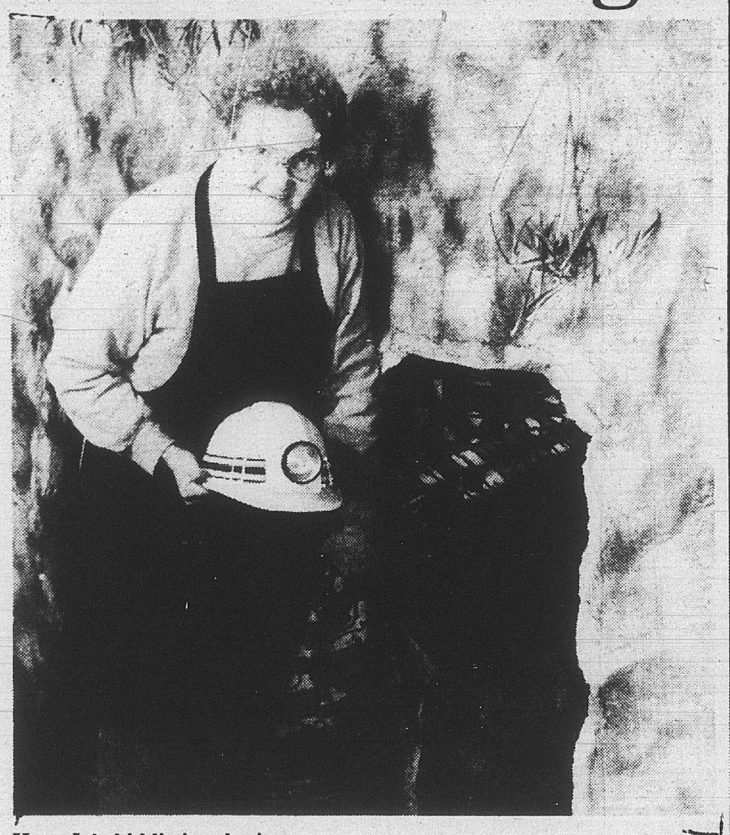
There is a new jewelry shop in downtown Middlebury. It's called called Kym-Je, which is in itself an interesting name for anything, let alone a jewelry store. In fact, the name isn't all that remarkable considering the shop is owned and run by Kym Hoerr and Jean Callahan. Thus the name—Kym-Je.

Inside the Marble Works jewelry store, customers will find items which are just as creative as its name. Kym-Je was originally located in Brandon, but under the advice of its customers, the business relocated to Middlebury just three months ago.

Hoerr, who has been making jewelry for over 20 years, is the craftsperson of the pair, while Callahan handles the finances and book work. Their market is targeted at college students and the local community. The store also takes jewelry on a consignment basis from a woman who lives in Vergennes by the name of Cindy Cooke.

Hoerr lives in the town of Pittsford twenty-five miles away from Middlebury with a roommate, three dogs, and nine cats. Early in her life, she spent three years in the Army. She then completed her Bachelor's and Master's degrees at Baylor University in Texas. She explained that her education prepared her to be a school teacher, which, after one and a half years in California, she decided was too sedentary. It was at that time that her thoughts turned back to the service where she went on to achieve the status of a commissioned officer.

It was at her station in Germany that she met the goldsmith who introduced her to the world of jewelry making. This dedicated man instructed her for three and one half years during every minute she could spare. For Hoerr these were rigid months of training. The craft of goldsmithing was more than a hobby in Europe, it was a means of earning a living. As Hoerr put it, "Either you want to learn, or forget it."



Kym-Je's kiddie jewel mine. *Photo by Melissa Barrett*

Hoerr learned two methods of making jewelry, lost-wax casting or fabricating. Any jewelry piece can be made using lost-wax casting, a method which allows for unlimited creativity in design. In the process of fabricating, on the other hand, each part of a piece of jewelry must be cut out and soldered separately. This takes more time and requires more delicately skilled workmanship.

During this time in Hoerr's life jewelry making was only a hobby. However, she was encouraged by friends who bought her custom made jewelry to become an entrepreneur. This she did after retiring from the Army as a colonel with 30 years of service behind her.

She says that the Vermont business has treated her well. This is most likely attributable to her enormous enthusiasm. "I love to make jewelry. I love dealing with people. I learn something from them every day."

The store houses approximately 150 different kinds of stones and all varieties of jewelry made from silver, gold, and platinum. In response to her preferences as a craftsperson she commented, "I like to make it all."

Hoerr described a small problem which she encounters in the day to day functions of the store. "I have always thought that children are traumatized [by their parents] before they enter a jewelry store."

Her unpredictable solution to this parental discipline is a "walk-in-mine." For a nominal fee of one dollar, used only to replace stones, children can enter this "mine." Wearing a hard-hat complete with a headlight, children can search through pockets in the "mine" for stones which Hoerr has scattered inside. Children are allowed to choose ten of the stones they find and take them home.

Concerning the future of the Marble Works, she is optimistic. "I envision this place a year from now as the place to do shopping, the place to get a sandwich, and the place even just to walk through. In the summer it will be marvelous."

She hopes that the proximity of Frog Hollow, another cluster of shops just across Otter Creek, will stimulate the growth of the Marble Works.

VERMONT HAPPENINGS

By Lisa Horwitz

Fri., December 1

The American Movie Club presents *The Blue Dahlia* at 7:00 pm and 9:30 pm in Dana Auditorium. Admission is $1.50 with ID and $2.50 without ID.

The Flynn Theatre in Burlington presents The Horseflies in concert at 8:00 pm. Tickets are $15.50/$13.50/$8.50. For more information call 86-FLYNN.

The UVM Lane Series presents Christmas music from the group Calliope at 8:00 pm. Tickets are $17.50/$12.50/$7.50 and are available at the UVM Campus Ticket Store, the Lane Series primary ticket outlet, the Customer Service Center, and the Flynn Box Office. For more information call (802) 656-3085. Ira Allen Chapel, Burlington.

The Sound Investment will perform a concert at 8:00 pm in Johnson Pit.

MCAB and WRMC presents the Black Cow Cafe featuring the Cynics from 9:00 pm-1:00 am in Cook SDU. Admission is $3.

Vermont Repertory Theatre presents the drama *The Imaginary Invalid* at 7:30 pm on Friday, December 1st, Saturday the 2nd, Wednesday the 6th, and Thursday the 7th. Tickets are $12 and $10. For more information call 655-9620 in Burlington.

Sat., December 2

The Music Department presents a Chamber Orchestra Concert at 4:00 pm in Mead Chapel.

College Street Film/Video Series presents *Red Sorghum* at 4:00 pm and 7:30 pm in Twilight Auditorium.

Burlington Oratorio Society presents a Choral Concert at 3:00 pm. Admission is $8, $6. For more information call 864-0471 -St. Paul's Cathedral, Burlington.

Winter Carnival Film *It's a Wonderful Life* at 7:00 pm and 9:30 pm in Dana Auditorium. Admission is $1.50 with ID and $2.50 without ID.

Sun., December 3

Concert Series presents the Tallis Scholars at 4:00 pm in Mead Chapel. Admission is $7 general, $3 with student ID or Concert Series ticket.

Burlington Film Society presents *Le Bonheur* (1965/France) at 7:00 pm at City Hall Auditorium, Burlington. Admisssion is $4 general and $2 members.

The Great Swamp Cafe presents Pete Sutherland and Karen Billings in concert from 3-5 pm at the Burlington Community Boathouse. Admisssion is $3 adults, $1 children under 12 and seniors. For more information call 865-3377.

Winter Carnival and Ski Team present *License to Thrill* at 3:00 pm, 7:00 pm, and 9:30 pm in Twilight Auditorium. Admission is $3 with ID and $4 without ID.

Mon., December 4

The Department of Theatre, Dance, and Film/Video presents *Blue Velvet, Uncle Josh at the Moving Picture Show*, and *The Lonedale Operator* at 7:30 pm in Dana Auditorium.

The Department of Theatre, Dance, and Film/Video presents *Perfect Leader, Arcade, The KCPT Tapes: If Looks Could Kill; The Sound of Music; The Sound of Defiance; Practice Makes Perfect; A Scar-Y Story, Sign on a Truck*, and *Double Lunar Dogs* at 7:30 pm in Twilight Auditorium.

Wed., December 6

Lane Film Series presents *Night of the Hunter* at 7:30 pm at the Fleming Museum, Room 101, Burlington. Admission is $3. For more information call 656-4455.

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Wilson makes rich connections

Local dancers perform in student choreographed 700 project.

By Lawrence Devoe

On November seventeenth and eighteenth "Eliza Wilson and Friends" performed in the New Dance Studio at Middlebury College. The concert featured Wilson '90 as a dancer and choreographer working with different individuals and groups. The company, led by Wilson, was made up of (in order of appearance) Elizabeth Ozimek '89, Matthew Brown '90, Andrea Olsen, Katherine Longstreth '88, Elisa Barucchieri, Kathleen Brigham '90, Jennifer Kayle '91, Katherine LaSota '90, and Pamela Vail '90. The choreography was by Wilson with the exceptions of "Openings," which was a joint effort between Ozimek and Wilson, "Dropping In," which was an improvised piece of authentic movement with Olsen, and "Wilson does the Campbell," choreographed by faculty member Penny Campbell.

As a whole, the concert demonstrated a control of momentum. The pieces choreographed by Wilson were characterized by a flow of movement and a deep connection between the dancers. The pacing was fluid, while the dancers exchanged momentum and movements regularly and smoothly. The dancers retained an elastic and integral connection overtly or covertly throughout the entire concert.

In "Openings," Wilson and Ozimek, who co-choreographed the piece, danced to "O Riememberanza" from the opera "Norma" by Bellini. This piece demonstrated continuation of movement from one dancer to another and contrasted it to movements in which one dancer's movement opposed another's or added energy to it. The dancers' identities became interchangeable, as the two wove together or pushed off of one another. The costumes, loose earth tone silk blouses and pants, designed by Ozimek, added to this idea of interchanging by making the two similar in outward appearance. Contact and non-contact modes of communicating energy were explored in this piece which worked from the floor up, exploring the entire space of the stage.

In "Sublemonal Actions," a piece choreographed to music by Michael Chorney, the Dance Department's Music Director, Brown and Wilson danced with a lemon. Selfishness was the subject of this piece, and there was an element of savagery to the competition that allowed the audience to laugh at the humor of the individual exchange, yet reminded us of the seriousness of the general subject. The piece was a beautiful and stirring parable of life with the moral of sharing.

As the dance opened, Wilson was sitting in a chair upstage and left, while Brown stood facing the audience downstage and right. They were both wearing jeans and dark vests. Brown began the movement alone. He explored the space he was in and discovered Wilson. He then moved around her and tried to pull her into the dance by caressing her face, and then moved on. After a moment she moved. She joined him in the dance. They each maneuvered to gain possession of a lemon which she had originally. The contortions they underwent to obtain this fruit highlighted and satirized the motive of profit and personal gain. The dancers possessed great versatility and skill in their love/hate relationship and their endeavors to gain the lemon. As the piece closed, Brown was in possession of the lemon. He had moved to the seat Wilson was in at the beginning of the piece. Wilson, alone, occupied the front right corner of the stage and moved slowly, one bereft of meaning in life and companionship. The circle of the dance was completed. Yet the circle broke as they pushed it one half turn, Brown stood up and threw the lemon to Wilson as the lights went out. The pun in the title can be forgiven in light of the beauty of the piece.

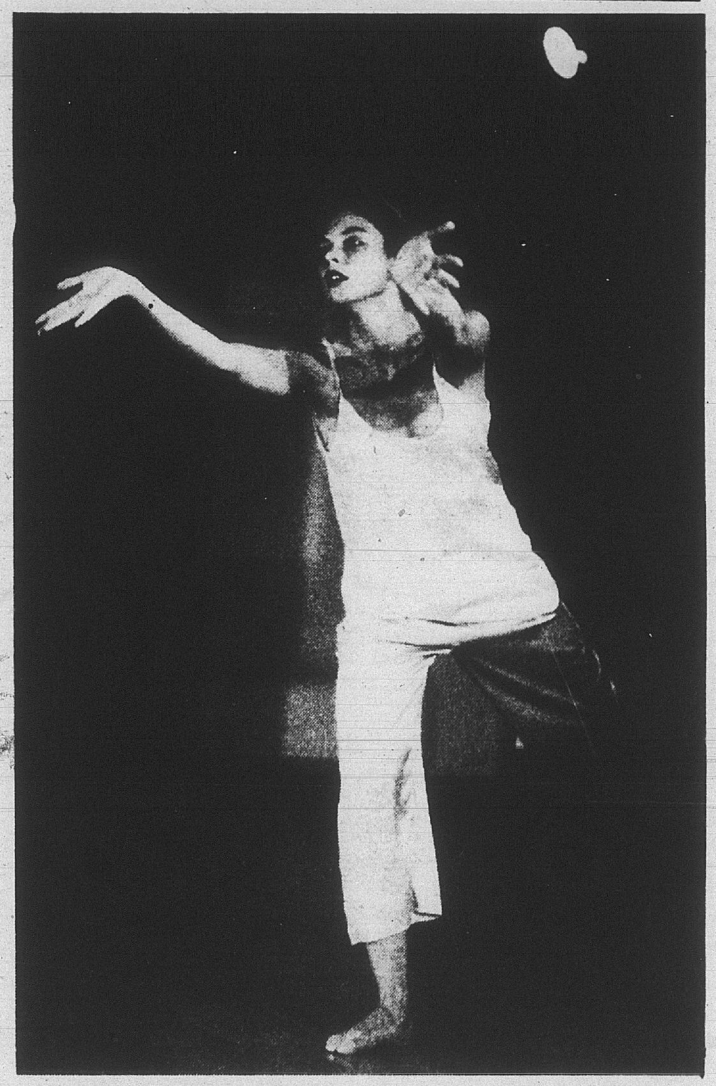
In the next piece, "Dropping In," Olsen and Wilson improvised together through authentic movement, an eyes closed movement form, allowing themselves any movement that they wanted. They attempted to lose the constraints of the mind over the body and allowed the body to take control. It is impossible to talk about choreography in this piece, because the piece was different every time it was performed. Rather, one can talk about movements and the feelings they evoked, and the sharing of an environment. The movement styles of the dancers provided rich contrasts as Olsen moved in a nearly continuous action, while Wilson paused before beginning an abrupt series of movements, and then paused again.

At the beginning of the piece I felt little. The movements were, for me, disassociated from any feeling. But as the piece progressed I felt a need to be comforted from the movements of Wilson. She seemed frantic for a moment, and then paused in a manic depressive way. It was as if the movements would let her find the comfort she needed, and then the pauses were her disappointment with what she found. Then, when she and Olsen made contact, Olsen began to caress her head in a motherly sort of way. Comfort was given and received.

The second half of the concert began after a short intermission with "Soul Song," a dance choreographed by Wilson and danced by Longstreth to the music of Billie Holiday. The music for the dance was stronger than the dance itself, though I think that this was not the performer's fault, very few could out dance the music of Holiday.

In "Movement for Sextet" the six dancers began as two soloists and two couples. The dance was choreographed by Wilson and featured (in alphabetical order) Barucchieri, Brigham, Kayle, LaSota, Vail, and Wilson. The music was by John D. Mitchell. The dance was an exploration of relationships. It broke couples up and created new ones. Then a couple would become a trio or a sextet before once again becoming a couple. Entrances and departures were used effectively to show that change could take place on or off stage. The movement was athletic and graceful, but I found the piece to be devoid of emotional content. It did not feel authentic. It felt like a Schoenburg piece, a technical masterpiece which evoked different effects in each hearer, and could leave one cold.

The final piece in the concert was a solo choreographed by Campbell and danced by Wilson. The accompaniment was a vocal soundtrack, also by Campbell. The dance was aggressive and organic and the dancer was fluid in motion. The aggression of the piece had no outlet on stage, and was often directed against the self or the audience. One motion in particular which stood out was the face pushing. Wilson slapped herself on each cheek in slow motion pushing her head away with the palm of her hand.



Wilson dances a solo in her 700 project. *Photo by Erik Borg*

The concert as a whole was very powerful. The dancers were well trained and performed with grace and power. The choreography was more powerful in the duets, though the sextet was rich with motion.

Overall the performance was well executed by a gifted group of dancers.

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All I want for Christmas are my favorite albums

By Shawn Miller

During the second week of October, Spec's, a record chain in Florida, begins plastering every inch of uncovered wall space with signs that blare in thick, red letters "GIVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC." As a child, these signs always brought a certain warmth to my heart, as I began to look forward to the season of giving and caring about your fellow man. (In Miami, feelings of holiday cheer are brought about by commercial changes, not seasonal ones.) Along with the summer months, December is Big Time for the music business, as companies try to make up for all the flops of the previous year by taking advantage of the spending frenzy to move millions of units of the latest mediocre superstar release.

This lure of easy money is so powerful that it can affect even the most serious, the most infallible, the most self righteous artists around. For example, a few years back Mr. Never Sell Out himself, Bruce Springsteen, agreed to the release of his live album during the holiday season in order to maximize sales. It became the first triple album in history to sell more than two million copies. Unfortunately for Bruce, once the calendar hits January 2, people's wallets tend to freeze shut, and now Bruce's live recording has become the first triple album to go for $3.99 in the bargain bins.

The reasons why so many albums are sold during the holidays is simple: music is easy to buy. Would you rather spend two hours sprinting through J.C. Penny's looking for the perfect sweater for sis, or walk into Tower Records and leave an hour later with everything taken care of? Furthermore, you can always buy Dad the latest Neil Young CD, and then tape it for yourself later.

So it's time saving and practical. But beware, dangers do lurk in the jungle of music consumer land. Because record companies spend more money making albums by superstars, they are desperate for you to buy them. Consequently, all advertising techniques are geared towards driving you away from Syd Straw and towards Whitney Houston. This year is no different, with new albums from Bobby Brown, Jody Watley, Whitesnake, and Phil Collins poised to inundate your local store with a bunch of boring Top 40 junk that isn't fit for consumption by intelligent human beings.

Seeing that all Middlebury students are intelligent human beings, The Campus would like to continue its tradition of serving the community by offering a helpful hand in your Holiday Shopping '89. The following albums will not only give your friends or family (assuming, of course, they are intelligent human beings like yourself) hours of listening enjoyment, but they will allow you to play the part of the intellectual college student by presenting loved ones with albums by groups they have never heard of before. Some suggestions:

The Jazz Butchers, *Big Planet Scary Planet*- The first words on the album boldly proclaim "I'm going mad and I believe every word I say." Truer words were never spoke. This is what you could call asylum music, with smidgens of jazz pumped into heavy chord rock with a tint of insanity. It works, in a demented way. The first side of the album has been designated the Big Side, as the band attacks Big problems in a Big way. With "Line of Death" we have a nice anti-war song, and "Bicycle Kid" tells the sad tale of a poor little boy whose "mother's on valium" and "dad's on the lump."

"The reasons why so many albums are sold during the holidays is simple: music is easy to buy. Would you rather spend two hours sprinting through J. C. Penny's looking for the perfect sweater for sis, or walk into Tower Records and leave an hour later with everything taken care of?"

The album really takes off on the other side, the Scary Side, which gives an addled trip through some hairy situations. There is the infectious pop of "Do the Bubonic Plague," on which some INXS guitar and strapping drum work actually let you believe it is possible to dance to the repeated lines "we're things and we're wandering around." "Bad Dream Love" is the happiest misery song of all time; do you think Bono could laugh as he sang "hit me harder, hurt me more?"

House of Freaks, *All My Friends*- OK, it's not a full album, it's only a six song EP. But each song on *All My Friends* works, and anyway, it will be cheaper than a regular album, making it perfect sibling gift material. Guitarist/vocalist Bryan Harvey and drummer Johnny Hott, who put out *Tantilla* in March, have literally made an EP with their friends, as only two cuts do not contain some friendly assistance. One of these "Ten Minutes To Live" has that rockabilly rave up spontaneity that comes from music made under a minimum of pressure, as Harvey reminds us not to take ourselves too seriously: "It won't matter when I'm six feet under the ground." "This Old Town" is an okie ballad that features friend Mark Linkous playing his foot. The Freaks also live up to their name on "You Can't Change the World" which has some of the best lounge music anyone had ever had the guts to put on an album, with friend Jocko MacNally on jazz guitar. To top it all off, the legendary Zack T. Hogg lends his skill of playing his arm pit on "You'll Never See the Light of Day." Good things in a little package.

Warren Zevon, *Transverse City*- Everybody knows about Warren Zevon, the guy who did "Werewolves of London." Unfortunately, some of the great work he's done since that single was released have been passed over. He keeps up his tradition of delivering witty, straightforward rock and roll. Apparently, Zevon was in a giving mood when he made this album, as he gave a bunch of famous musicians some work. "Run Straight Down" features classic David Gilmour guitar, "Gridlock" is spiced up with electric guitar from Neil Young and acoustic guitar from Jorma Kaukonen, and, for those Deadheads who can't get enough, Jerry Garcia appears on two tracks. Jazz bassist John Patatucci and Heartbreaker Mike Campbell also appear. But all this talent doesn't dilute the crunch of *Transverse City*, Zevon is definitely in charge. With his folk music approach to rock 'n' roll, Zevon can make social and political statements in his music, overdoing it in a Jackson Brownian way. He hits the dehumanization of the computer age, American military policy and perestroika without the listener ever realizing that he is being lectured to. He even sings a few lines in Russian; what more could one ask for?

Do "The Rapture Two-Step"

"The Rapture Two-Step," a new play by Dick Beebe, will open December 7 in the Hepburn Zoo as the final production of the fall 1988 Middlebury theater season. Performances will be Thursday at 8 pm, Friday at 6:30 pm and 9 pm, and Saturday at 8 pm.

The play is a one-act, running approximately 45 minutes, which unfolds the bizarre relationship of a young couple and their somewhat unconventional perception of "reality." Frank, played by Christopher Duva '91, is a dreamer whose idea of happiness lies in fantasies of the past with Otis Redding, Jimmy Stewart, and old pterodactyl sci-fi thrillers. Kira Petersons '90 plays Marian, his wife, who once embraced Frank's ideals as her own, but now realizes that what works for him does not necessarily work for her. "Reality" becomes an issue of the individual as Frank chooses to live in the past, while Marian prefers another world entirely.

"The Rapture Two-Step" is a relatively new, unpublished script receiving its second staging with this Middlebury production. It was first produced in the summer of 1988 as a workshop production in New York City.

Phoebe Wood '90 is directing and producing this play as her 500-independent project. Dave Curley '90 is acting as the official technical director and Rohanna Mertens '92 is stage managing. Lighting is designed by Jim Briggs '90, while the overall set design may be credited to an entire colony of ants.

Alumni reunited in opera

Amahl & the Night Visitors

The Middlebury College Alumni singers will be reunited in Brattleboro Opera Theatre's January productions of "Amahl and the Night Visitors," and "Die Fledermaus," at the Latchis Theatre in downtown Brattleboro, Vermont.

Under the direction of Middlebury College voice faculty Nan Nall and Lise Messier, Brattleboro Opera Theatre will feature soprano Mary Anne Kruger '89, singing the role of the 'mother' in "Amahl ;" soprano Alice Vail '85, performing the role of 'Adele' in "Die Fledermaus;" and bass Clifton Romig '87, in the roles of 'King Balthazar' in "Amahl" and 'Frank' in "Die Fledermaus."

Also singing in "Amahl" is current student Ben Halpern '93, as the 'Page,' as well as being assistant to the technical director; and music faculty Greg Vitercik performing the role of 'Frosch' in "Die Fledermaus."

The three former Middlebury students are known to Middlebury Alumni for their splendid performances in Brattleboro Opera Theatre's past productions of "The Magic Flute" and "Hansel and Gretel."

The performance dates for the three family performances of "Amahl and the Night Visitors " are Saturday, January 6th at 3 pm and Sunday, January 7th at 2 pm and 4 pm at the Latchis Theatre. "Die Fledermaus," to be sung in English with the B.O.T. Chorus and Orchestra, will feature a special gala performance Friday, January 12th at 8:15 pm and a matinee Sunday, January 14th at 2:30 pm at the Latchis Theatre.

For ticket information please contact: Brattleboro Opera Theatre, 12 Williston St., Brattleboro, VT 05301, or call (802) 254-6649.

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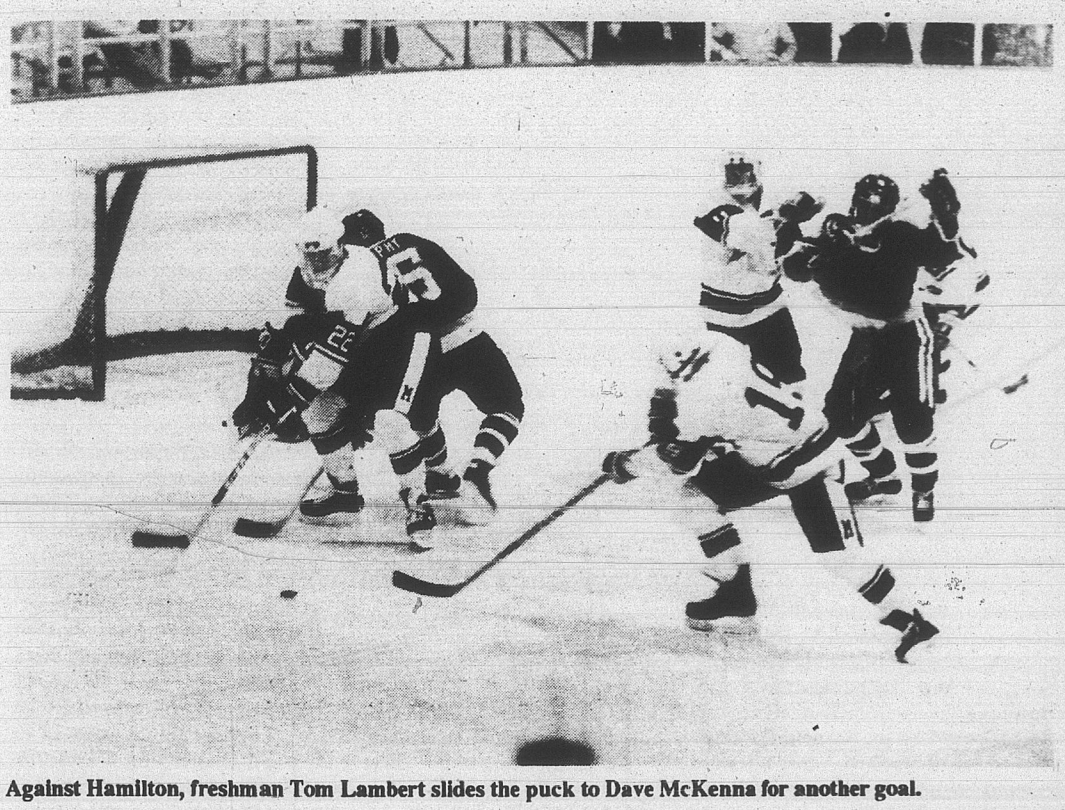
SPORTS

Hockey opens up with three wins

Panthers off to their best start in six years with wins over Wesleyan, U.V.M. and Hamilton



Against Hamilton, freshman Tom Lambert slides the puck to Dave McKenna for another goal.

Photo by Mark Raskopf

By R. Robert Popeo and Christopher Hollander

November 22, 1989 is a date that many Panther hockey fans will cherish for some time. On that Wednesday night the Middlebury hockey team defeated the Division One University of Vermont Catamounts for the first time in six years. With wins over Hamilton and Wesleyan, the Panthers start out this new season with an impressive 3—0 record.

Despite their lack of size and relative inexperience they were able to outskate a physically imposing U.V.M. squad. "We've got a young team, and basically we felt we had nothing to lose. We've improved over the last year. Everybody's got an extra year's experience and I think it showed. Last year we folded and this year we kept going and going," said coach Bill Beaney. With this victory the Panthers proved that they have indeed come of age and are hungry for post-season play.

The Catamounts came out strong, as they netted the first goal of the evening thirty-eight seconds into the game. Middlebury regained their composure and evened the score four minutes later on a power play goal by freshman Tim Craig, assisted by Neil Sinclair '93 and Brent Truchon '92. Sinclair carried the puck wide over the blue line and fired from the high slot. Utilizing their speed and quickness, Middlebury aggressively attacked U.V.M. in their defensive zone and took the lead with less than a minute to play in the period. Junior Marc Alcindor tipped a Craig shot passed goalie Matt Bertram to put Middlebury on top to stay.

The Panthers took some extra momentum into the locker room, came out strong in the second period and scored again at 3:39. Tom Humphreys '91 took the face off to the right of Truchon, drew it back to Doug Cochran '92 who sent it off the boards up to Jamie Noll '91 on the blue line. Noll and senior Paul Hauf broke in on a two on one. Hauf slid the puck to Noll who pumped a wrist shot into the top of the net over Bertram's shoulder. Both the Panthers and the Catamounts played aggressively for the rest of the period yet neither could capitalize in the offensive zone.

In the early stages of the third period, U.V.M. had what looked to be a golden opportunity as they were awarded a five on three advantage as a result of penalties by sophomores John Parr and Kent Hughes. The Catamounts were not able to score until just after the teams resumed play at even strength, when Ricker Love deflected a Brendan Creigh shot past goalie Brent Truchon.

As the game progressed, the Catamounts began to wear down their opponent, forcing goalie Brent Truchon to play at the top of his game. As he has done so many times before, Truchon responded to the call, recording sixteen saves in the last period. Neither team went on to score again and the Panthers squeaked out a 3-2 win at Gutterson field house.

This Panther squad looks to rely on a more balanced attack than in years past as a result of the increased depth on the bench. The first eight goals of the season were scored by seven different skaters.

Four days earlier, the Panthers opened up the season with a 5—1 victory over Wesleyan University in front of a spirited crowd at the Duke Nelson arena. The young squad looked strong in all areas as the defense limited Wesleyan to one goal while the Middlebury offense produced five of their own.

This Panther squad looks to rely on a more balanced attack than in years past as a result of the increased depth on the bench. The first eight goals of the season were scored by seven different skaters. The Wesleyan game provided a preview of the offensive power that will help the Panthers stack up against such league powerhouses as Bowdoin, Babson, and A.I.C.

Middlebury started the scoring within two minutes of the opening faceoff as sophomore Frank Clemens fired a blistering slapshot over the shoulder of Wesleyan goaltender Steve Batter. This early goal set the tempo for the rest of the game as Middlebury outshot its opponent 44-12. The sniper line of Freshman Tim Craig and Mark Alcindor and Kent Hughes combined to produce the second goal of the evening at 4:59 of the second period. After Wesleyan failed to clear the zone, Craig picked up the loose puck and passed to Hughes, who relayed the puck into the crease where Alcindor was waiting.

Alcindor, last year's leading goal scorer wasted little time in maneuvering the puck past the goaltender Batter. Sophomore Chuck Hibbett, who had an exceptional preseason, tallied the third goal of the evening at the 13:51 mark of the second period. Although Middlebury continued to challenge the Wesleyan goalie, they were not able to score again until midway through the third period when freshman Todd Lambert skated the length of the rink and deked the goalie in front of the net.

With less than one minute remaining, Truchon's hopes for a shutout were ruined as Wesleyan managed to slip the puck over the goal line. Twenty seconds later, Tiegen Fryberger '93 ended the scoring after being awarded a penalty shot for being dragged down from behind by a Wesleyan defender.

The Panther squad came into the Hamilton game on Tuesday night fired up from their victories in the season opener over the hapless

continued on page 15

Bowl games, do they reflect champions?

By John Spellane

Although it was reduced to rhetorical status in the so-deemed "Me" generation, for college football the question of who's number one has not diminished in importance. Unlike other collegiate sports, football does not have an end of season tournament to determine the best team in the nation. Instead, the holiday television market is saturated with an overabundance of Nintendo commercials and a barrage of bowls ranging from Orange to Liberty.

The revenues generated by these bowls are enormous. For a university, securing a bowl bid guarantees several millions of dollars and national exposure. For the networks, the rights to a bowl is an assurance of a substantial share of the holiday viewing market. But, for fans the bowl system does not guarantee that the best team in the country will receive the national championship.

Up until this past Saturday evening, everything seemed simple as the two highest ranked undefeated teams, Colorado and Notre Dame were set to square off in the Orange Bowl for the national title.

The idea of having some type of tournament to determine the number one college football team in the nation has been bandied about since the infamous naming of Brigham Young as the national champions in 1985??? In some years, such as last year, where the number one team is undefeated and has beaten virtually every team within close range in the polls the problem solves itself. Such was the case last January when Notre Dame went undefeated and claimed the title. However, this year is quite different.

As the bowl season nears, there are 5 teams which could possibly have legitimate claims on the number one spot. The five are (alphabetically as not to induce bias) Alabama (10-0), Colorado (11-0), Miami (10-1), Michigan (10-1), and Notre Dame (11-1). Up until this past Saturday evening everything seemed simple as the two highest ranked undefeated teams Colorado and Notre Dame were set to square off in the Orange Bowl for the national title.

Then things changed. Dennis Erickson's Miami Hurricanes gave the Irish a sound beating in front of an enormous national television crowd. In ending Notre Dame's undefeated streak at 23, the Hurricanes emphatically cast their name into the pool of heirs to the national crown. The 'Canes only loss came at the hands of a emotionally charged Florida State squad and it may be overlooked as it came so early in the season and only in the fledgling stages of Erickson's tenure.

Notre Dame had won all the big games for two seasons until Saturday's defeat. They staved off early season challenges by Michigan and U.S.C. in dramatic fashion and did so in front of large national television crowds. The Irish had made the most out of their mystique and the coaching of Lou Holtz in surviving these earlier challenges. But, the lack of any semblance of a passing attack and a defense that wasn't quick enough to stop Miami's aerial or ground attack proved their eventual demise.

Michigan had an impressive victory over perennial rival Ohio State last Saturday. In doing so, they not only gained full possession of the bragging rights of the great lakes region, but they also solidified their claim for the national title. On national television the Wolverines beat a young 8 and 2 Buckeye squad that was hungry for a Big Ten victory.

Michigan's only loss came at the hands of Notre Dame and if Raghib "The Rocket" Ismail had not returned two kicks for touchdowns the Wolverines might be sitting atop the national rankings as we speak. Now Michigan must face U.S.C. in the Rose Bowl and if their effort against Notre Dame earlier this year is any indication, the Trojans may be better than their 8—2—1 record indicates.

Colorado finished the best season since the days of Supreme Court Justice Byron "Whizzer" White to take the Big Eight crown. The flashy Buffaloes routed all their lesser Big Eight opponents and for the first time in many years defeated Nebraska and Oklahoma. It was the Nebraska Game that truly gave

Going airborne against Wesleyan, Junior Dave McKenna looks to exploit another dumbfounded goalie.

Photo by Mark Raskopf

Women's hoop looks promising for new season

Women's basketball sinks some buckets in past hoop action.

File photo

By Elisha Hall

The Middlebury women's basketball team enters this season with high expectations after finishing last season with a record of 15 wins and 5 losses.

The Lady Panthers also made it into the national rankings last year: as a team they had the highest rebounding margin in the N.C.A.A. at 16 per game, as well as being fifth in the nation in scoring with an average of 81.6 points a game. Caroline Leary, a freshman last year, was the third best rebounder in the nation in Division III.

As a result of last year's success and the number of returning players, Coach Amy Backus is very optimistic concerning this year's campaign. Last season's entire starting line-up is returning, as well as three other strong contributors. In addition, four freshmen, Sarah Fryberger, Rita Glavin, Sladja Kovijanic, and Jennifer Lussier bring strength and diversity to the team.

The Lady Panthers' schedule this year has several additions to it, beginning with the season opener against Division II St. Michael's

According to Coach Backus one thing to look for this season should be an even faster game than last season. Using the team's speed and conditioning, she hopes to speed up the tempo of the game and really run her opponents. She plans to couple the fast tempo with lots of full pressure defense. She's counting on the confidence of her returning players, as well as the ability of the entire team to work well together to make the new strategy work.

Both Backus and senior co-captain Kathy Dubzinski commented on the improvement of the program in the last three years. Dubzinski credits Backus' excellent recruiting, as well as the on-the-court unselfishness of the team members, a characteristic that worked itself into the program.

Backus and Dubzinski also agree on the goals of this year's team. Both women commented that the team's immediate goal was to take each game one at a time, but both expressed hope that the team would receive a bid to the Eastern College Athletic Conference (E.C.A.C.) tournament at the end of the season. According to Backus, a main reason the team didn't make it last year was the team's two losses to Bowdoin and Bates in the same weekend. The squad is particularly eager to prove themselves against these two teams this season.

The Lady Panthers ...had the highest rebounding margin in the N.C.A.A. ... as well as being fifth in the nation in scoring with an average of 81.6 points a game.

The Lady Panthers' schedule this year has several additions to it, beginning with the season opener against Division II St. Michael's on November 30. Upgrading the schedule was a major goal of Backus' when she arrived at Middlebury two seasons ago. She says it's difficult to add many more teams because of Middlebury's location. "Teams don't want to travel five or six hours to get here when they can stay in Boston and play challenging games," she said. She's very excited about having St. Michael's return to the schedule. Up until about six years ago St. Michael's played Middlebury regularly, but the contests stopped because the Middlebury basketball program wasn't strong enough to provide a challenging game for them. Things are different now. Backus hopes this game will eventually lead to a sort of "state rivalry."

Another important addition to the schedule is the Lady Panthers' trip to California during Christmas break. Middlebury will take on San Bernadino, Pomona-Pitzer, and Claremont-Mudd-Scripps. Middlebury students and alumni living in the Los Angeles area are encouraged to come support the Lady Panthers in their West Coast premier.

This should be both an exciting and challenging season for the Lady Panthers. High expectations of fans and team members alike will put some pressure on the team, but these women have high hopes and a confident attitude that the upcoming season will bring the satisfaction (and a bid to the E.C.A.C. tournament?) that last season promised.

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Men's basketball splits

By Marc Parsons

While most students were still digesting their Thanksgiving turkeys, the Middlebury College men's basketball team was kicking off its 12th season under coach Russ Reilly with a split at the Howard Bank Green Mountain Classic in Burlington last weekend.

The Panthers' opener was against the towering Purple Knights from St. Michael's College. Though the Panthers came up short in their 81-72 loss in the opening round of the tournament, Saturday's game was not without its highlights.

David Findlay '91 provided the crowd with a stunning display of hustle and offensive power. Despite being outsized by as much as 13 inches by the trees in St. Michael's frontcourt, Findlay scored 19 points, hauled in 13 rebounds (eight offensively), buried eight foul shots and generally fired up the Panther squad. His unorthodox offensive moves and gritty, almost maniacal pursuit of the ball were extremely effective against the Knights, who never expected such an explosive force to come from the Middlebury bench.

Douglas Ginevan '92 did a remarkable job at center where he held St. Michael's gigantic African senior, Michel Bonebo (7', 3"), to only two points. Though Ginevan was not a big scorer in the game, his tough defense played a large factor in the Panthers' performance.

Another positive aspect of the first game was the Panther's ability to use the three-point shot in the first half to build a one point lead at intermission. Captain Michael Gill '90 sank four out of five three-point shots on the day.

Nevertheless, a team that lives by the three-point shot, also dies by the three-point shot. When the men in blue cooled off in the second half, they shot a mere 3 for 16 from beyond the arc and fell behind.

The Panthers had a tough time getting most of their shots to fall in the second half. The Knights, with their scoring machines Troy Brown and Bryan Duffy, simply outshot Middlebury, to walk away with a win.

Both of Middlebury's usually prolific scorers, Jeffrey Smith '91 and Michael Baumann '92, had a tough day from the field. Smith summed it up by saying, "If Baumann and I had had normal offensive games, we would have won."

A key ingredient in the win, which should continue to help Middlebury in future games, is the added depth and composure of this year's squad.

In the consolation game last Sunday, Smith and Baumann were back in fine form. The scoring pair combined for 44 points, which tipped the balance in favor of the Panthers, downing the Norwich Cadets by a score of 81-66.

The game started with a blaze as Smith scored 6 points in the first 90 seconds of action. Throughout the game the Panthers outran the Cadets on the fast break and capitalized on the easy shots that Norwich surrendered. During the first half, Baumann broke away and threw down a vicious dunk, the Panthers' first of the season. Blanchard's exceptional day of rebounding by led Middlebury through the fast pace of the game.

A key ingredient in the win which should continue to help Middlebury in future games is the added depth and composure of this year's squad. The players on the bench were able to relieve the starters so effectively that Middlebury's starting five played, on average, a scant 28 minutes, while the Norwich quintet averaged 34 minutes in the game.

There was much more of a bench impact then simply resting the starters, however; the Panther reserves accounted for 21 points. compared to the weak two points which the Norwich bench contributed.

David Findlay and Hector Hill had fine games off the bench. Findlay was again scrappy on the floor and cool as ice on the foul line. Hector, as the third guard, played his characteristically relentless defense, while burying the open shots which came his way.

Another bright point was Matthew Shaw '92, who shot 66% from the field while playing a well-rounded game.

The weekend tournament proved several things which may come into play as the season develops:

—The Panthers are a deep club. The play of all the reserves will be consistent while Findlay and Hill in particular will shine.

—The Panthers need the scoring leadership and big

continued on page 16

Hockey smokes opposition

continued from page 13

Wesleyan skaters and the powerful U.V.M. squad. Hamilton is traditionally a strong team, and there has been a history of bad blood between the two squads. This has its roots in the past exploits of the Hamilton crowds when the Panthers have played in Clinton, and this may have accounted for the twenty-three penalties levied during the game.

Unfortunately, some of these exploits were repeated by the Middlebury spectators. "What a shame that a few bad apples have to ruin a good time for everyone," said Steven Hopkins, who left in disgust after the second period. Yet even these events did not detract from the Middlebury victory.

Hamilton is traditionally a strong team, and there has been a history of bad blood between the two squads...this may have accounted for the twenty-three penalties levied during the game.

Middlebury came out fast scoring at 1:05 in the first period when freshman Ray Alcindor collected the first of his two power play goals assisted by his brother Marc Alcindor and Kent Hughes. Hamilton countered at 10:50 when Scott Dexter poked it by Truchon after a pile up in front of the net. Middlebury jumped ahead again 15:23 when Paul Hauf crossed the slot and fired a slapshot into the upper corner.

Hamilton roared back at 15:45, but the Panthers responded with a minute left in the period to take a 3-2 lead into the locker room on a power play goal. The Panthers had a five on three advantage. Marc Alcindor faked a shot and passed over to Kent Hughes. Hughes slid the puck back to Alcindor who shot it on the fly, but hit the post. Ray Alcindor took the rebound and scored.

Hamilton was awarded a power play at the beginning of the second period for a bench minor as the result of a Middlebury fan hurling an orange onto the ice. Hamilton scored on the power play at 1:23, but Middlebury came back again at 1:37 on a goal by Tim Craig. Hamilton scored again two minutes later. At this point the two teams stopped trading goals. Middlebury took complete control. The Panthers regained the lead at 8:43 when Kent Hughes skated off the top of the circle and blasted one past the Hamilton netminder. The Panthers augmented their lead with a pair of goals by Marc Alcindor, with Jamie Noll and Doug Cochran each tallying one up.

The Middlebury Men's Hockey Team has performed exceptionally well and is off to its best start in six years. With their upset over U.V.M. the Panthers have proved to themselves and others that they possess the talent and fortitude to beat anyone on their schedule. Although there were momentary lapses in the Hamilton game in which the Panthers lost their composure, the team has exhibited its play making ability. Crisp passing and hard forechecking have paid off with big wins. The power play has been extremely productive at this early stage of the season, and both the defense and the goaltending have been solid.

Coach Beaney seems to have adjusted the team's style to highlight their strengths, taking advantage of their speed and quickness while compensating for their lack of size. The Panthers will face Tufts and North Adams in the upcoming weeks before the Salem Tournament in January. As long as the Panthers do not let their play degenerate to the level of some of their weaker opponents they should walk away with some easy victories before Christmas break.

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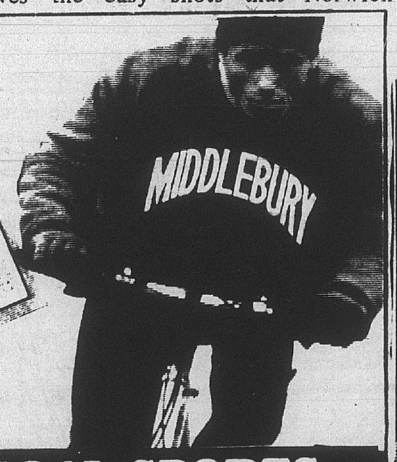

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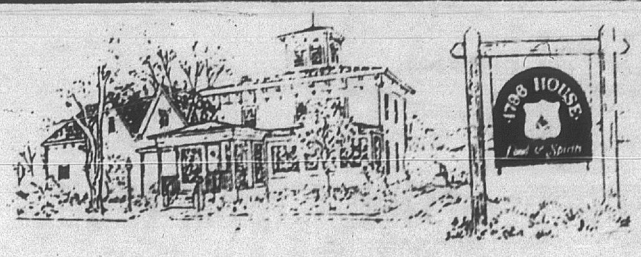

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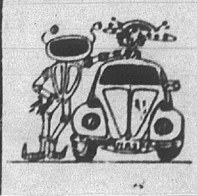
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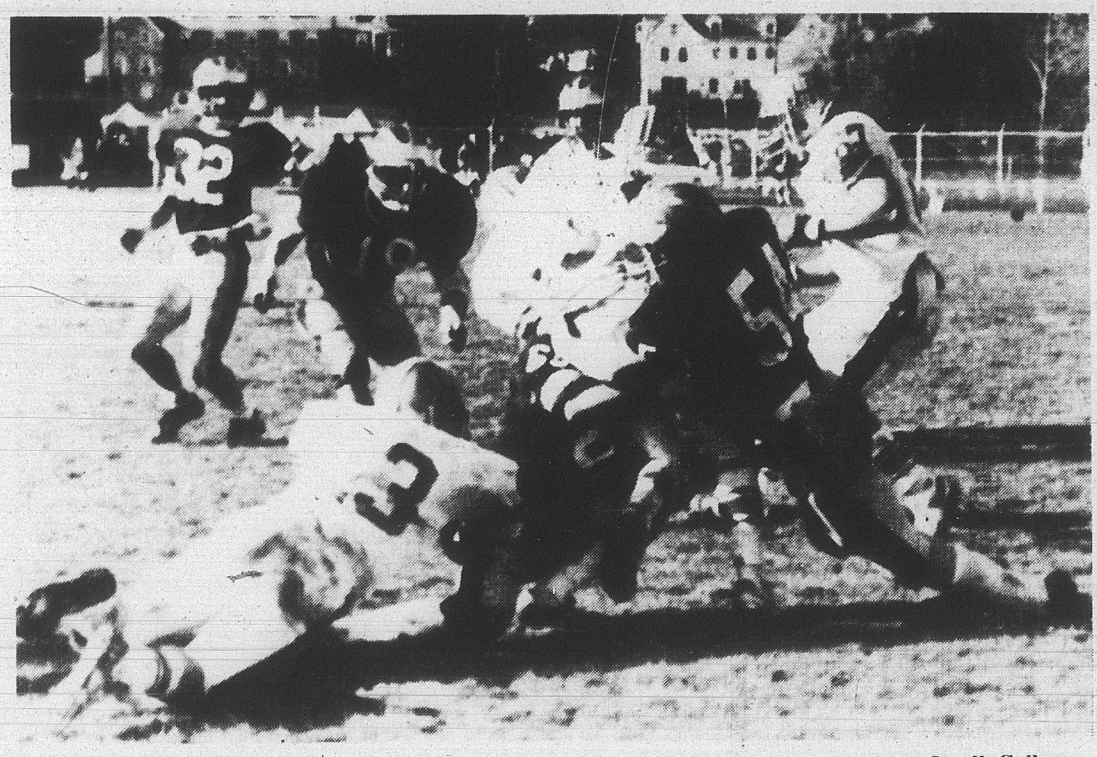

Senior co-captain Mitch Harper was named to the all-defensive team of the New England Small College Athletic Conference for his outstanding defensive play for the Panthers in the 1989 football season.

File photo

Upcoming Panther January sports

Men's varsity hoop	vs. Tufts, 7:00	1/20/90
	vs. Norwich, 7:30	1/25/90
	vs. Conn. College, 4:00	1/27/90
Men's hockey	vs. Babson, 7:00	1/13/90
	vs. U.Mass. Boston, 7:30	1/13/90
	vs. Williams, 7:30	1/16/90
	vs. Norwich, 7:30	1/20/90
	vs. Conn. College, 4:00	1/27/90
	vs. New England, 7:30	1/30/90

Park Drug Store
Now Under
New Ownership

*Featuring new, lower prescription prices.

*Bring in this ad for $3.00 off any new or transferred prescription.

-or-

Receive 10% off any other store purchases totaling $5.00 or more (excluding magazines).

*We also now accept Blue Cross, Paid, PCS, and Medimet prescription plans.

34 Main Street 388-2522

Spellane

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credence to the Buffs' number one claim. The 'Huskers came into Boulder with an undefeated record and left in shock as Colorado defeated them on national television.

Alabama has accumulated a 10 and 0 record in relative obscurity compared to the four other finalists. The Crimson Tide's biggest victory came in a scorching of the Reggie Cobb-less Tennessee Volunteers. This game possessed the common denominator that typified so many of the other "Big Games" of the 1989 season; national television coverage.

Unlike other collegiate sports, football does not have an end of season tournament to determine the best team in the nation.

The Tide face Auburn tomorrow for the SEC title in what is their biggest game of the season. At present Auburn is a one point favorite and if the Tigersdefeat Alabama things will either be simplified or further complicated.

There are many scenarios that could unfold in the coming weeks. If Colorado defeats Notre Dame in the Orange Bowl they will have the most legitimate claim on the title. However, they must do so impressively as to assure voters that they are undoubtedly better than Miami. If Notre Dame defeats Colorado, the Buffs have no claim although the Irish will have an outside chance. If Alabama defeats Auburn and then defeats Miami in the Fiesta Bowlthey will be hard to ignore even if Colorado beats Notre Dame. Similarly, if Miami beats Alabama and Colorado defeats Notre Dame the title may go to the 'Canes by virtue of a tougher schedule as it would in the event that Colorado loses.

Believe it or not the aforementioned are the easiest scenarios to decipher. The worst possible and most confusing scenario occurs if Alabama loses to Auburn then defeats Miami, Michigan handily defeats U.S.C., and Notre Dame defeats Colorado. Then there are four teams with one loss each. Perhaps it is too premature to suggest but, wouldn't a national championship playoff system that occurs during December solve the problem much easier?

Men's hoop starts strong

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play ability of Smith and Baumann to push the team up and over the competition.

—The Panthers must take advantage of their shooting talents. Simply put, when they shoot well, they should win.

The season continues this weekend when the squad ventures into New York state for the University of Rochester tournament. The Panthers' home opener will be against Wheaton College on Friday Dec. 8. Over Christmas break, the team will be traveling to the warmth of Southern California to face the Claremont-Mudd and Pomona-Pitzer College squads before the start of Winter Term.

CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED

SPRING BREAK 1990
Individual or student organization needed to promote our Spring Break trips. Earn money, free trips and valuable work experience. Apply Now! Call Inter-Campus Programs: 1-800-327-6013.

The parent of a Middlebury student wishes to rent a house or apartment for the month of January. Call Shelly collect: 203-661-4000

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A $10 PRESENT YOUR PARENTS WILL LOVE! "Middlebury Mom" and "Middlebury Dad" T-shirts. Brooke. x6041. Box 2446.

Pair of Goodyear Snowtires. P205/75R15. Like new. $100. Call Brian x5170.

PERSONALS

KILL YOUR TELEVISION!

Hi K.B. How 'bout this Sun. p.m at Paisano's, again. . . ?! Missing you from across campus— Bunny hugs, HARPER

Happy Birthday Bonnie!

Cheat, cheat, have limp meat. Nice try Hardie!

Let's get some real leadership. Don't abolish the frats, squash the S.G.A.

Hey, S.G., B.S., M.M. et al: only 1 mos. left in this DECADE for a word that begins with an A, ends with N, and rhymes with Jackson, the main musical man. So get going, gals—love, your (usually) pleasantly-partnered pal.

Dude, the Dead are touring once again this spring and I got my dad's SAAB. We don't have much time before we have to take jobs on Wall Street, so let's live it up while we can! So let's just go see the shows! And, dude, score the hack.

Meghan with the red hair—you have a secret admirer.

KRISTAN for KWEEN

Worried about personal problems? Writing a thesis? Concerned about your "carreer?" Well, stop boring friends with your relentless bitching. I'll not only listen to your woes, I pledge to worry about them for you. Call Jasmime, ext. 7324.

Winsor—This is definitely not an eggroll.

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The Middlebury Campus

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Preparing for the inevitable

To think that we on The Campus thought we would be free of letters to the editor and editorials concerning the fraternity issue this spring! After the Greek system's virtual monopoly on Campus opinion space last year, we thought everything that could possibly have been said for or against fraternities had been publicly aired—repeatedly. With the Task Force on Student Social Life's recent report and open forum, however, it has become saddeningly clear that it is now time to recycle the old arguments. The can of worms is re-opened. Only this time, the issue may just be resolved.

It is less an editorial advocation than it is a clear fact that the fraternity system at Middlebury—and in many parts of America—will soon be a thing of the past. Elitist, male-dominated social scenes are quickly becoming anachronistic in the context of Middlebury's move towards enhanced community diversity and cultural appreciation. We're a month away from the 1990's, ladies and gentlemen, and fraternities do not play into many community members' vision of the future—for better or worse.

There undoubtedly will be continued debate on behalf of proponents of the fraternity system. And it is everybody's right to voice any and all concerns anybody has concerning college policy. We encourage this feedback. However, it is becoming more and more clear to The Campus that, given the majority report of the Task Force, it may be more productive at this point for all Middlebury students to begin considering what they want this college's social life to look like without fraternities.

If the task force's recommendation that the college institute a "cluster" system (there must be a better word) is, indeed adopted, then the future of student life at Middlebury—from parties to student government—will need thoughtful restructuring. This is where students must come in. Granted, the transition between the system that most individuals have known and the future of most students' social lives will not be easy. Nevertheless, it is every person's responsibility to ascertain just how much they care about their non-academic life at Middlebury College. After all, we have come here for academics, but, presumably, many of us have come here for much more than just the academic opportunities of this environment. Even if you came here as a proponent and hopeful participant in the existing Greek system at Middlebury, this is no excuse to shun all attempts to improve our social life for *all* members of the student community.

OPINIONS

El Salvador: no democracy

By James A. Perreault

"Elections are a practical yardstick of democracy," the "inescapable test of public accountability." These words of former Secretary of State Charles Shultz embody the expectations of U.S. officials when dealing with democracy in the Third World. If elections are certifiably free and democratic, then notch up another victory for the big D, and move on to the next case.

Washington does not see that free elections do not necessarily mean social or economic democracy, let alone political democracy. Elections or not, there remains an oligarchy in El Salvador, controlling the economy, the military, and the government.

The "Fourteen Families" have controlled almost all the country's fertile soil and sixty percent of all its land since the seventeenth century, and through this the country's agriculture-dependent economy. Much of the officer corps of the military is either drawn from this oligarchy or brought into it in various social and economic ways. The rich and powerful military is a natural ally of the oligarchy. It is this elite that finances the political parties. It is from this group that political candidates are chosen. It is this group that controls El Salvador, democracy or not.

Political parties are called liberal or conservative, but their goal is the same, it is only their methods that differ. Liberals keep the elite in power through promises and insignificant favors, conservatives through threats and intimidation. But neither wants to really reform the system, neither has helped the people, neither wants the oligarchy to lose their hold on power. Those who do want these changes are squeezed out of the game.

And as the rules of the game, which are dictated by Washington, have changed, so has the elite. The United States wanted a democracy, and that is what they got. But to what extent is El Salvador really a democracy? The choice of candidates is controlled by the elite. No unapproved candidates even make it to the primaries. And pressure from the authorities denies the people the freedom to make a choice by refusing to choose (observers point to the large voter turnouts as a sign of electoral success).

The rebels were, of course, invited to participate, but that would be giving into the system, legitimating the illusion of democracy that the elite garchy's game, by their rules, on their field, without protective equipment would be a losing proposition for the opposition.

The real disaster, though, is not that the United States has been fooled, other countries have proven how gullible Washington can be. Rather, it seems that the people have been fooled also. Their miserable situation has not improved in the past seven years under the Christian Democrats, nor is it expected to improve under the ARENA party. Yet, there is no longer any hated figure to blame. There is no Somoza-type dictator to rally against. They, themselves have been conned into electing their oppressors. How can they blame democracy? Instead they blame the war, and look forward to the time when it will end and the magic wand of democracy will improve things.

This co-opting of the people by the elite can be seen in the results of the rebels' offensive a couple weeks ago. Neither side has been serious about negotiations, the elite do not want to give up any power, the rebels do not want them to retain any: stalemate. The rebels, then, looked for a military solution. The "final offensive" was launched against major urban areas across the country. The rebels were strong enough to throw the military off balance, but not to defeat them outright. What they had wanted was a general uprising similar to the one that propelled the Sandinistas into power in 1979. They assumed that if they looked strong enough to seriously challenge the military then the people would join them to overthrow what they correctly identify as the oppressive oligarchy.

They, of course, miscalculated. The animosity directed at a clear target, that existed in Nicaragua before the fall of Somoza, no longer persists in El Salvador. The people have been deceived by the trappings of democracy, and have missed what may have been their best opportunity.

Will the United States remove its red blindfold and realize that it has succeeded in forcing elections, but that it has failed to install democracy in El Salvador? Will the rebels realize their public relations miscalculation and be strong enough to launch another "final" offensive at a more appropriate time? Will the Salvadoran people realize that the "representatives" they have elected do not represent their interests at all? And will all these realizations have come too late?

Crying over spilt milk crates

To the Editor:

Walking down the sixth floor of Barnes the other day, I noticed the newspapers to be recycled were being collected in milk crates. These crates do not come from Ames or Target; on the side they explicitly say Property of Idlenot Dairy. A few months ago such a situation would have left me unfazed. However on September 24 of this year, I was arrested by Officer Gregory Blair for stealing this exact type of milk crate from behind the Middlebury IGA. Yes, arrested; not simply told to put the crates back, or given a warning or a fine, but handcuffed, read my rights, and stood against a ruler for a mugshot.

Sitting in the police car, behind a screen, wrists wired together, my first reaction was disbelief; I really could not believe this was happening. Even now most people's reaction to my story is one of amusement. However, the consequences of my actions were, and are, serious. I had to go to court, and if I had not been placed in the diversion program, would have had a criminal record. As it is, my record will be on file for the next two years, and if I have any more run-ins with the law, I will no longer have the option of diversion.

The dairy industry spends two hundred forty thousand dollars on milk crates every year, and half that money is used in replacing crates people have stolen. This is obviously money that should not have to be spent. Just because IGA leaves those plastic boxes outside does not mean they are free for the taking; as they explicitly say on the side, the crates belong to the Idlenot Dairy Company. Taking them does not differ from shoplifting, or stealing from someone's home. Thus the next time someone is looking for some storage space, they should consider going into Ames instead of behind the IGA.

Anonymous

This letter is part of the punishment prescribed for this individual. Normally The Campus requires that the writer's name be published along with the letter, but an exception was made in cooperation with the program.

OPINIONS

The Fat Lady's Song

Good Night, Mommy

By Geoffrey T. Coffey

Now gather around, boys and girls, and Uncle Geoffrey will tell you a bedtime story... what? Of course it's your bedtime, children! Mama Midd has taken special care to know exactly what bedtime is best for you! Now sit still, and listen to the story.

No, you silly geese, I'm not going to read *Uncle Wiggly* again. Tonight's story is "The Mysterious Tale of the Report of the Task Force on Student Social Life." Yes. I think you will find it very enlightening and entertaining, and just to make sure you do, we will go over the morals of the story as we proceed.

Now, first, you must realize that you are indeed children. Of course you are! It is implicitly implied in the third point of the Task Force Minority Report. Just listen: "Presently, fraternities have little outside influence. Adult presence and judgment could add strength to any system." Isn't that nice, children? Let's go over the things that, as Middlebury children, you are allowed and not allowed to do.

Things that are allowed:

1) You may stick a paper tube filled with dry leaves into your mouth, light the end on fire, and suck on it.

2) You may fornicate on water beds, in hot tubs, in the open air, in closets, or in any other place which suits either your or your partner's fancy.

3) You may wear combat fatigues, wield a rifle, and have your appendages violently removed from your body in foreign lands.

4) You may cast a ballot, and thus have a say in the election of an absolute coxcomb to the Presidency of our nation.

5) [Applies only to Middlebury children who have reached the age of twenty-one] You may imbibe inebriating beverages until you vomit.

Things that are not allowed:

1) You may not make responsible judgments concerning your own life.

Oh, wait, there's Trustee Pat Palmer, announcing in Mead Chapel that you *are* adults after all! Now observe her face closely, children. Can you see? That is called a "condescending look." Can you say "condescending"?

Now then, let's move on to the next part of the story. It concerns that portion of the Task Force Report known as "The Majority Report." It reads as follows: "Fraternities should be abolished by May 30, 1990." Now let us read from the rationale behind this suggestion: "As we approach the 21st Century, Middlebury is striving to become a more diverse community. We are committed to going beyond mere *tolerance* of differences to an era in which we *appreciate* the cultural diversity that makes America a unique and strong nation." What? Are you confused, children? Oh, yes, you must not understand a statement which includes both "abolition" and "appreciation of diversity" as its simultaneous goals. Well, children, it's very simple. This is your first lesson in hypocrisy. Can you say "hypocrisy"? I thought so.

What? You want another lesson in hypocrisy? OK, here's lesson #2. First, consider that the Task Force is an unbiased, disinterested, neutral, and open-minded group which has been asked to vote on a delicate issue. Now consider the ac-

(continued on page 20)

What *is* "responsible journalism?"

To the Editor:

Mr. Baker's accusation that The Campus is guilty of yellow journalism only proves to me that, in the deepest sense, the administration and its supporters are responsible for the tremendous apathy and ignorance that exist at Middlebury College.

The Campus is, for once, finally taking a stand on an issue. As a result of this resolve, it seems that they are also beginning to employ the best examples of investigative journalism. For, whereas a year ago, or even less, The Campus was a public relations mouthpiece for the College, they are now beginning to cater to the best interests of those they are supposed to serve, namely, the student body and the faculty. The lesson, I believe that has been learned here is, perhaps, one Mr. Baker did not want learned, simply that faculty and staff cannot commit unethical practices of any sort and think they can get away with them.

The truth will out, Mr. Baker, as has happened time and again. The press must remain a vehicle of information and truth. In The Campus, they are taking the first steps down the road of good journalistic ethics. For, whereas the administration attempted for many years to hush up an affair that affects all of us, The Campus has now taken responsibility out of their hands and put it in the hands of the moral majority: the student body, faculty, and staff.

Mr. Cubeta's actions were deplorable. But what was and is more deplorable is the unwillingness of the administration to address this affair. As far as transgressions against individuals are concerned, they have already been committed, Mr. Baker. An entire school was rocked by Mr. Cubeta's lies. It is still struggling under the weight of years of misinformation. By his very actions he has given the right to be trusted, to be pandered to, to be protected from the justice that is due. It is the same situation in which many other public figures have found themselves—Jim Bakker, James Wright, Barney Frank. Are you telling me that the American public has no right to know what these people are up to? That these people should be protected from public wrath? This is the argument that you make, Mr. Baker. For in saying that The Campus is modeled on "The worst journalism" you are indeed indicting *The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Washington Times,* and the Congressional Ethics Committee of the same "yellow journalism." What The Campus has done is attempted to protect Middlebury College from more such heinous violations of justice, whereas the administration attempts to quietly sweep the whole affair under the rug. Has administration done very much to support the administrative staff of Bread Loaf and the victims of Mr. Cubeta's punishment? I put to you that the answer is no. It seems that Mr. Cubeta's punishment, a slap on the wrist, will not prevent more people from getting hurt. There are and will be more victims Mr. Baker. Of that I can assure you. Had this not been published in The Campus Cubeta would have been able to move on to other institutions and caused the same pain. As it is, the administration continues to attempt to hush the whole affair and as a result, Mr. Cubeta still has not received full punishment.

Jeanine Zeitvogel '89

To the Editor:

It is unfortunate that there remains in our society a deplorable tendency to repeatedly victimize the victim. I refer to Professor Baker's thoughts in the November 17 issue of The Middlebury Campus. It is made quite clear that Professor Baker cares more for the college's reputation (and keeping the matter out of *The New York Times*) than for the sexual harassment victims themselves. He claims that they "hunger for vengeance" and implies that the students should not have spoken out this summer, or ever. He writes that "One must wonder... at the timing chosen by the victims for their coming forth." What is the wonder? Who in their right mind would want to come forth and bare deeply blistering wounds before a college community while still a student? I hold tremendous respect for those who had the courage to return to this college, describe their ordeals, and possibly make this campus a safer place for students in the future. We should learn from the pain inflicted on these students so that it will never happen again; not vainly cry over our college's tarnished reputation. Damn the college's reputation! These are human lives whose horrible experiences should not be distorted with moot debate over the propriety of The Campus's investigative reporting. It is also disheartening to read Professor Baker's claim that "the major emotion here is a desire to vent spite." Instead of trying to understand the crime and the devastation it causes on lives, he seems more interested in further attacks upon the unfortunate victims. The next time that Professor Baker wonders "at the timing chosen by the victims" I hope that he realizes that responses such as his are exactly what keeps harassment victims silent. Victims quite rightly fear the "spite" held by the supposedly "liberally educated" persons that continue to blame them for their misfortunes.

Robert Baran '90

There is nothing humerus about it

To the Editor:

Two years ago, in May 1987, the door to my office in McCullough gym was smashed in, and a naked torso of a mannequin was left on my desk. It was one of several like occurrences on campus. This year, the human-bone skeleton was taken from my office on November 19, and the skull of our newly purchased plastic skeleton was also removed, leaving me face to face with a headless body as I sat down at my desk on Monday morning. These actions reflect general discomfort with the human body and with those who care about it in a way which is worth both contemplating and changing. Out respect for ourselves—our individual physical selves, and by extension, for other people, for animal species and for our earth—is basic to world peace and global survival. The issues are not small and are not funny. In certain shamanic traditions, it is said that the ability to name the bones is the foundation for wisdom. I ask for the assistance of the college community both in contemplation of the issues at hand and in action towards change: contemplation of what it means to violate the physical body and invade another person's property and private space, and in the return of both the skeleton and the skull to my office in the Dance Program in the service building and perhaps, more importantly, return to a respect for the human body—a body which we all share.

Andrea J. Olsen
Department of Theatre, Dance and Film/video
Instructor: Anatomy and Kinesiology

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's unanimous: don't look a gift stadium in the mouth

To the Editor:

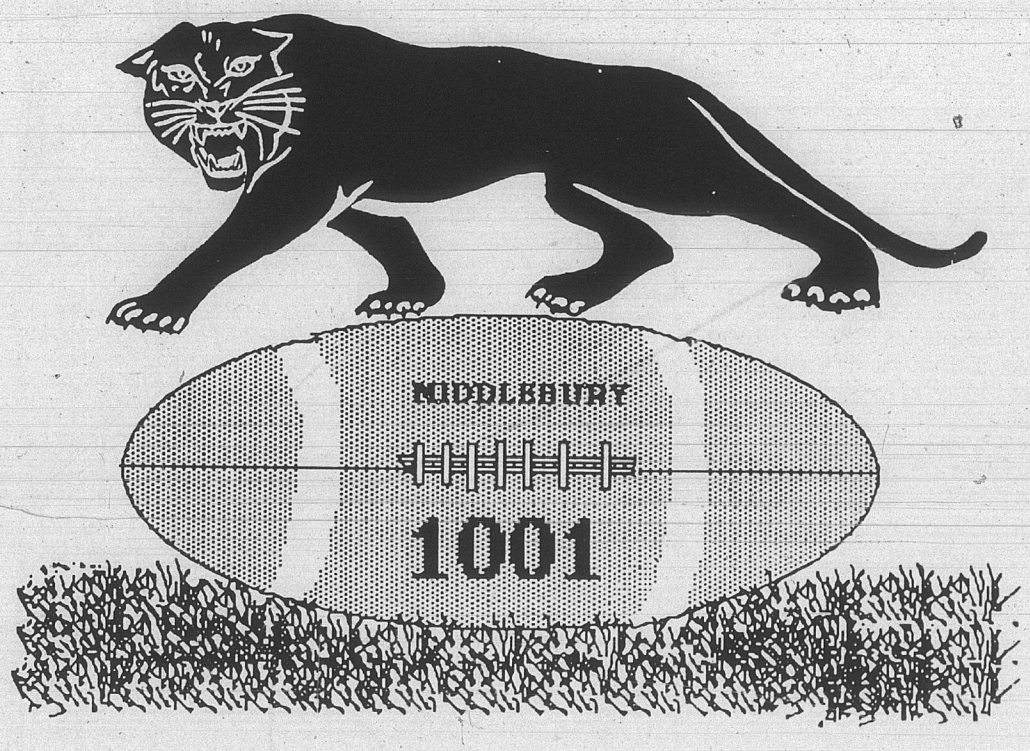
The gift of a new sports stadium, or any other gift that adds to our facilities, should not be turned down. To recind any offer of a beneficial gift is absurd. The stadium will improve the quality of life at Middlebury, and certainly not diminish our reputation as a superior educational institution.

The offer for the stadium is specifically for a stadium, not a sum of money to spend as we see fit. If it were a lump of cash, the issue would be different. It is true, there are many things we could use at Middlebury as much as or more than a new sports stadium. However, we are not the ones to decide how the money may be spent. It either pays for a new sports stadium or nothing at all.

The suggestion of flatly refusing any donation disgusts me. We cannot pick and choose the gifts that are offered. Granted, it would be silly to accept a gift of a new computer center just after Ballenger has been completed, but that is not the case. We truly need a stadium. The old one is a dilapidated blemish on our rural campus. For those who feel left out, perhaps a little patience is in order. I have trust in the school that it will not overlook a needy department. But it can't do everything at once. We must rely on the generosity of friends and alumni to satisfy our needs.

Middlebury, or any institution like it, is in no position to tell philanthropists what they can give. We can't tell someone who wants to give a student center, for example, that he or she must instead give a new administration building. Givers are feeding their egos as well as helping us out. We must accept the fact that some donors would rather see their names on a weight center than a classroom. However, others would rather give a library than a sports stadium.

By accepting the gift, Middlebury's wish list will be one item fewer. We won't need a new sports stadium any more. Perhaps the next big gift will be a library or a science center. It will be one less thing potential givers can donate. Also, we must remember that Middlebury has received both a new computer center and a new arts center in the past two years.



It is folly to hope for only academic improvements, just as it is folly to expect only athletic improvements. Both elements of the school have received generous gifts of late. Let us not succumb to quibbling and bickering like little children over the amount of dessert another sibling has received. I should think that the community would act as adults, praising the generosity of the gift, of any gift, as something that adds to the school as a whole.

I think a final comment is in order, directed at those who think a new sports stadium may hurt our academic reputation. I am amazed at the closed-mindedness of such a comment. That is like saying that a more physically active person becomes less intelligent. If anything, he or she improves on all fronts. Any improvement to Middlebury will help attract the best and the brightest. Middlebury will attract the same well rounded student who is both bright and athletic. The stadium may bring prospective students to Middlebury who might have gone to an equivalent academic institution with better facilities. In light of other recent additions to our facilities, both academic and athletic, the message sent to prospective students can only be that Middlebury is dedicated to offering the best of everything.

Thomas Louderback '90

To the Editor:

I have had the distinct pleasure of being Chairman of Annual Giving for Middlebury College form 1981 - 1984 and then National Chairman of the Campaign for Middlebury College from 1984 until we complete the project December 31st of this year. As a volunteer, I am proud of our accomplishments in that eight year span in that Middlebury College benefited from receiving well over 85 million dollars. Annual Giving has increased well over 150% in that period of time. Alumni and Friends of Middlebury College have responded overwhelmingly to our Campaign and will by year end exceed our goal of 60 million by at least 15 million dollars or better than 25%.

As a trustee and Chairman of the Athletics Committee of the Board of Trustees I believe, as well intentioned as your thought and those of your colleagues may have been, your demands to cease progress on the proposed athletic expansion and new fields is inappropriate.

You were Chairman of the 10 year planning document (1983-1993) and are well aware of the requests therein. We, in planning for our Campaign, designated 95% of the goal of $60 million for Faculty, Academic Programs, Scholarships and Student Services and New Facilities. Of this amount, $31 million was for Faculty and Academic Programs.

We who have been deeply involved with the Campaign are proud to say that our faculty has increased by 19 or better than 15% and that the average salaries have increased 55% and that leave time has increased tremendously, all exceeding the goals anticipated in your 10 year plan and yet accomplished in five years.

Professor Peterson, I point out all these facts without mentioning athletics at Middlebury. We did plan in our Campaign to raise $2 million for Athletics and we have exceeded that amount. The new Arts Center location caused us to move the baseball field. Even though this is the case, we in Development felt that we should endeavor to fund the new field and are about to close on a very generous gift that will fully fund this project. The Development Department has stated to the Board of Trustees that no additional facilities for athletics will be built until all monies are pledged or contributed.

As to your statement of the lack of need for a football stadium, I merely respond with "if you had been present at any football game in the last few years to see the field torn up, due to rain soaking the field, you would not make this statement." You might also read the sports pages of the newspapers, Burlington Free Press etc., and hear the comments of the visiting coaches about "the sea of mud and unplayable field" at Middlebury College. This is in addition to the fact that approximately one-third of the stands at Porter Field have been closed off as being unsafe.

One of the things I have learned over my period of involvement at Middlebury College is that some Alumni and Friends would rather direct their funds to the support of athletics than any other area of the College. In some instances they would not give at all unless they would be assured that the funds would be used only for athletics. Thus it becomes evident that Middlebury College would not be the recipient of these additional funds and would be required to use other funds for the athletic programs.

Last but not least, is the fact that of the 2000+ students at Middlebury College one-third participate at the varsity level, one-tenth in club sports and about two-thirds are involved with intramural sports and will live a healthier life because of our support.

I sincerely hope this is the type of discussion you requested in your resolve to the Board.

David E. Thompson '49
Chairman,
Campaign for Middlebury

"Astounded and insulted," once again

To the Editor:

After attending the community meeting to discuss the review committee on social life at Middlebury I am once again not only astounded but insulted by the now predictable manner in which policy is dictated to both the student body and faculty on this campus. Putting aside the content of the report, for the moment, I am struck by the inability of this school to effectively communicate with its constituents. I note specifically the almost inconsequential manner in which the students are presented with information directly considering them. I am sure the committee which compiled and was presenting the report would, for the most part have preferred to avoid a confrontation-style meeting, but the events surrounding the unveiling, so to speak, of the report precluded that. The report was released less then half a day prior to the meeting. If there was sincerity in the wish for dialogue concerning the report, the gathering should have obviously been staged days after the report's release. After the meeting I heard SGA members saying, that it was nothing more than students, as usual, "reacting off the top of their head." This is certainly true, for we were not given the option of spending any time to review the report beyond the first fleeting glance. It is of little wonder that the committee received less in the way of constructive dialogue, but rather an atmosphere similar to that for a witch burning. This is not to say that if the first dialogue between the students and committee was delayed a half week, the report would have been received with open arms. I do not see that it is possible, given the report's conclusions, but with the manner in which it was presented, a precedent of confrontation has been set for all future meetings.

One student who raised the point that he was not given enough time to fully digest the in excess of one hundred page report was told by one of the members of the committee that with a "Middlebury education" he should be able to complete such a feat. It should be noted that a "Middlebury education," while also teaching us to read a report such as this in a manner resembling last-minute final exam cramming, also shows us how to read critically material. As anyone could have told the committee, critical reading requires one to become intimately familiar with the text, to understand it to a point where one can then dissect it and provide constructive critical analysis. The manner in which the committee conducted the distribution of the report did, in no way facilitate such an analysis.

I, and many members of the room, felt the meeting was more a gesture of the administration's typical 'manhandling' of events, rather then a forum to solicit the most requisite student response. From the tuition increase, sexual harassment scandal, president Robison's resignation, to winter parking rules, the consistent tone of this college has been one telling the students and faculty to listen and accept; providing them with nothing more than an impotent, convoluted government structure to act as forum for voicing opinions on these happenings. The report acknowledges the growing dissatisfaction of the students here at Middlebury, and if there is sincerity in reversing that trend, then consideration must be given to an evident student need to be provided with and consulted upon relevant community matters.

Paul Testa '91

ATTENTION: The positions of Opinions Editor and Assistant Opinions Editor are open beginning in January. Any and all interested students are strongly encouraged to apply.

The Opinions Editors are responsible for soliciting pieces about national and campus issues from members of the college community. In addition, the Opinions Editors are responsible for sorting through voluminous mail received each week and organizing the Op-Ed pages in The Campus.

Potential Suitors should be aware of current events and have a grasp on those issues which rock the college campus from week to week.

Applications are available at the Student Activities Office.

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

MR. PRESIDENT, THIS IS A FINAL, DETAILED SCHEDULE FOR THE MALTA SUMMIT.
11-27
YOUR FIRST MEETING WITH GORBACHEV WILL TAKE PLACE ABOARD THE U.S.S. VAN BUREN, A CARRIER FROM THE 6TH FLEET.
WE'VE COORDINATED ALL THE DETAILS DIRECTLY WITH THE NAVY, WHICH ASSURES US THAT THE VAN BUREN IS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF PREPAREDNESS!
MAN OVER-BOARD!
I CAN'T STAND IT...
SKIPPER?
WHAT?
THAT'S THE SOVIET FLEET, ALL RIGHT... NO, NO... IT'S THE ITALIANS!
I CAN'T FIND THE OTTOMANS, SIR!
WHAT OTTO-MANS?
MAYBE WE'RE EARLY...
11-28
FOR MR. BUSH, SIR. HE SAID HE AND GORBY WANTED TO PUT THEIR FEET UP AND TALK.
CAN'T WE GET SOME-THING FROM SHORE?
TOO LATE, SIR. HOW ABOUT A PAIR OF SAW-HORSES?
UM...
OH, WOW... EVER SEEN AN F-14 CARTWHEEL?
MR. POWERS! I WANT THE BEARING ON THAT SOVIET LIGHT CRUISER!
AYE, AYE, SIR!
11-29
AND WATCH HER ESCORT SHIPS! WE NEARLY SWAMPED THAT TORPEDO BOAT THIS MORNING!
CAP-TAIN?
WHAT IS IT, SAILOR?
WE GOT A BAD NEWS, GOOD NEWS-TYPE SITUATION, SIR. THE RADAR TOWER JUST GOT SHEARED OFF BY A CRIPPLED AIRCRAFT.
AND THE GOOD NEWS?
IT WASN'T ONE OF OURS.
CAPTAIN? CHIEF WOLINSKY JUST TRIPPED OVER AN ARRESTER WIRE. HE'S DOWN IN SICK BAY.
OKAY, THAT DOES IT! ALL HANDS STAND DOWN! EVERYBODY FREEZE!
11-30
WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON HERE? I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH CARE-LESSNESS IN THE PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES! YOU EXPECT THE PRESI-DENT TO SHIP OUT WITH A CREW LIKE THIS!
YOU'RE ALL PART OF THE FINEST NAVAL TEAM IN THE WORLD! I EXPECT YOU TO ACT LIKE IT! GOT IT?
AYE, AYE, SIR!
AYE, SIR!
AYE, SIR!
GOOD! NOW EVERYONE BACK TO YOUR...
EXCUSE ME, SIR. WE JUST LOST OUR PROPELLER.
SIR! WE'VE SPOTTED THE PRESIDENT'S CHOPPER! THREE O'CLOCK OFF THE STARBOARD BEAM!
SECURE FLIGHT DECK!
SHIP'S COMIN' IN, COMIN' IN! CONTROL OFFICER REPORTS SMOOTH APPROACH!
I CAN'T WATCH...
12-1
...AND WE HAVE... TOUCHDOWN! THEY MADE IT, SIR! THEY MADE IT!
THEY DIDN'T CRASH!
HEY, WE'RE THE U.S. NAVY!
MAN OVER-BOARD!
EXCUSE ME, ARE YOU SECRET SERVICE?
YES, I AM.
12-2
I KNOW YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO TALK WHEN YOU'RE ON DUTY, BUT I WANT TO TELL YOU HOW RELIEVED I AM YOU'RE HERE!
WHY'S THAT, SON?
WELL, THE VAN BUREN HAS ALWAYS BEEN A BIT JINXED. THE SHIP IS ACCI-DENT-PRONE.
ACCIDENT-PRONE? HOW ACCIDENT-PRONE?
...AND LASTLY, SIR, MAY I PRESENT LT. MEYERS, THE SHIP'S LAWYER.
MY CARD, SIR.

The Fat Lady

(continued from page 18)

tual members of the group. We have five professors (Ladimer, Rockefeller, Small, Spencer, and Wolfson), none of whom support fraternities (in last year's faculty decision, they all voted to abolish), and one of whom (Wolfson) publicly admitted that he had intended to condemn fraternities from the outset, regardless of the evidence presented to the Task Force, no matter what. We also have an alumna (Margaret Lynch) who made it known that, as a freshman, she was warned to stay away from fraternities lest she be raped, and that she took this advice to heart....What? Yes, that's right, children, this is a completely unbiased Task Force. Do you better understand the concept of hypocrisy? Good.

Now for a final point. Do you recall the major reason that fraternities are unacceptable and must be either changed or abolished? Yes, that's right, it is because they do not admit women as full members. With this in mind, let us read the first two recommendations of the Minority Report:

"1) Full and equal participation of women.

Rationale: All male organizations are antithetical to the mission of the college and are not appropriate as a model for the society at large. Fraternities are committed to abide by the "open-rush" premises now stipulated within the Document of Understanding which provides that any member of the college community is eligible to join any fraternity.

2) Disassociation from nationals.

Rationale: Little is to be gained by perpetuating national ties if nationals do not accept women as full and equal members. Thus, disassociation from nationals is an inevitable consequence of admitting women members. If, however, a local chapter can prove itself a catalyst for changing national policies, then national affiliations may be retained. Failure to comply with this recommendation will demand that the fraternity disband entirely as a College organization."

Did you see that final sentence? It is known colloquially as a "death sentence." It says: "You must do what we tell you, or else you aren't allowed to exist any more." Now, have you noticed the odd location of the death sentence? Yes, it is attached to the suggestion that fraternities drop their national affiliations. How strange! Why isn't the death sentence attached to the suggestion that fraternities admit women? For, surely, the death sentence should be attached to the most important or significant suggestion; it seems to say, "You can violate these other rules and get away with it, but don't violate the one with the death sentence." But that would mean that the college is not as largely concerned with the admission of women into fraternities as they are over the deaths of those fraternities themselves (for without national ties, a fraternity ceases to be a fraternity—it may not use the name, the Greek letters, the escutcheon, the composites, or the initiation ceremonies). Could it be that the college doesn't even care about the "women in fraternities" issue at all? Could this entire Task Force Report be a joke, a farce, a bureaucratic weasel which could sneak abolition down our throats before we knew it? Might the administration simply be using the women's situation as a convenient excuse to end the fraternities? In a manner of speaking, might they be using castration as a red herring for decapitation?

Just a thought. Nighty-night, kiddies!